JOHN BULL

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For marking of this No. see page 23.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

MORE "BULLETS" HOLIDAY PRIZES

See page 34.

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There is no summer recreation so delightful, healthful and economic touring with a luxuriously easy and comfortable cycle. Lovely scenery, enjoyable companionship, with fresh air and sunshine, exhilarate & refresh both body and mind. And with a change of scene, and freedom from care and worry, you will find the happiest hours of your life in the pleasures and delights of the open road.

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ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played on dates between May 11 and 25.

HOME.	AWAY.	DRAW.	HOME TEAM.		AWAY TEAM.
			MATCHES.		
			Oxford University	v.	Middlesex
			Cambridge University	v.	Hampshire
			M.C.C.	v.	Yorkshire
			Notts	v.	Sussex
			Leicestershire	v.	Hampshire
			Cambridge University	v.	Middlesex
			Essex	v.	Yorkshire
			Surrey	v.	Worcester
			Middlesex	v.	Sussex
			Warwickshire	v.	Leicestershire
			Hampshire	v.	Yorkshire
			Somerset	v.	Surrey
			Gloucestershire	v.	Warwickshire
			Cambridge University	v.	Sussex
			M.C.C.	v.	Minor Counties
			Northamptonshire	v.	Lancashire
			M.C.C.	v.	Hampshire
			Essex	v.	Middlesex
			Worcestershire	v.	Leicestershire
			Yorkshire	v.	Surrey
			Somerset	v.	Sussex

I enter "JOHN BULL" Cricket Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

1 Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

Cut here

DUPLICATE COUPON AND LAST YEAR'S RESULTS

The following duplicate list of the matches is printed solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the Entrance Form.

As a guide to competitors, we also give below last year's results of the matches given on the attached coupon.

Home.	Away.	Draw.	DUPLICATE COUPON.	LAST YEAR'S RESULTS.
			Oxford Univ. v. Middlesex	No match.
			Cam. Univ v. Hampshire	Match drawn.
			M.C.C. v. Yorkshire	No match.
			Notts v. Sussex	Notts won by 35 runs.
			Leicestershire v. Hampshire	Match drawn.
			Cam. Univ. v. Middlesex	Cam. Univ. won by 9 wickets.
			Essex v. Yorkshire	Yorkshire won by 7 wickets.
			Surrey v. Worcester	Match drawn.
			Middlesex v. Sussex	Sussex won by 33 runs.
			Warwickshire v. Leicest'shire	Warwick. won by 271 runs.
			Hampshire v. Yorkshire	Match drawn.
			Somerset v. Surrey	No match.
			Glouces'shire v. War'shire	Glos. won by 247 runs.
			Cam. Univ. v. Sussex	Sussex won by 5 wickets.
			M.C.C. v. Minor C's.	No Match.
			North'shire v. Lan'shire	Northants. won by 4 wickets.
			M.C.C. v. Hampshire	Hampshire won by 208 runs.
			Essex v. Middlesex	Match drawn.
			Worces'shire v. Leicest'shire	Leicester won by 8 runs.
			Yorkshire v. Surrey	Surrey won by 57 runs.
			Somerset v. Sussex	Match drawn.

As the Competition is one of skill, you are also advised to study the cricket columns and reports given in the daily papers.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XVI. No. 413. Week ending Saturday, May 2nd, 1914. One Penny.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for APRIL 25th, 1914, bearing on its Cover the Number 566,304.

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Our Ambassador.

Who shall deny that the King's visit to Paris has done more to cement our good relations with France than all the gabble of the Party politicians? Talk as you like about the "Sovereign People"; in international affairs, at any rate, it is the People's Sovereign which counts.

Those Naughty Boys!

Speaking of the King, how very naughty the St. Stephen's boys were the moment he had turned his back on the school! There was Boney Law calling Herby Asquith a liar and challenging him to come out and fight. But Herby wasn't having any. "Come up our court," said he, "and then we'll hold an inquest on you." Of course, putting aside metaphor, what he did say was: "If you have any charges to make, make them to a jury consisting of the Liberal and Labour and Nationalist members; *that* is the way to get a fair trial." *What* a game it is! But who cares, nowadays?

Another Yankee Yarn.

For utter bosh, bunkum, and blarney commend us to the yarn in the *New York American*, the "yaller" Yankee newspaper. We needn't repeat the yarn; its own headlines will serve: "King and Queen Scared During Ulster Crisis. Had Yacht All Ready to Take Royal Children Away to Norway." The correspondent who has sent the paper this stupendous tarradiddle from London is either a poet or a novelist.

Two Good Judges.

Congratulations to the Government on the appointment of Messrs. Shearman and Sankey to the Bench. Apart from the fact that these promotions are entirely free from Party taint, each of the new Judges is a man of indisputable claim to judicial honours, and will undoubtedly justify his selection.

Sweet Charity.

Amongst recent donors to the fund we have opened for the benefit of Mr. Trump have been Lord Roberts, Canon Scott Holland, and Mr. Galsworthy. Who says that JOHN BULL'S influence is on the wane?

The Business Government League.

Pending further developments, we are having a preliminary canter with this enterprise by organising the North-East London branch—taking our old constituency of South Hackney as its centre—with offices at 25, Church Road, Homerton. Ten thousand members have already been enrolled, and if the readiness of the response to our appeal is any indication of the feeling of the country—well, no other Leagues need go on.

Masterman's Opportunity.

Addressing a meeting the other evening, Mr. Masterman—with characteristic self-righteousness—lamented the fact that South-West Bethnal Green now "has a stain upon it." Surely, however, this can be easily remedied. Where is his whitewash brush?

Sporting Sweepstakes.

Our desire to protect the public by discriminating between the honest and sound sweepstake firms carrying on business in Switzerland and those of another kidney, has once more brought us into collision with the authorities; and on Tuesday next we are to appear before the Bow Street cadi on the charge of having infringed Sec. 41 of the Lotteries Act, 1823, by "unlawfully publishing a proposal and scheme for the sale of tickets in certain lotteries not authorised by any Act of Parliament." Doesn't it sound awful? And the worst of it is that we may be declared to be "rogues and vagabonds"! We must not, of course, comment upon the merits of the case—but we may at once deny the rumour that Messrs. Smallman and Terry, of Geneva, and Mr. Patrick O'Brien, of Lucerne, are at the back of it, and that it is a subtle device on their part to draw attention to their sweeps.

Ramsay's Remi—nuisances.

Ramsay, the Ridiculous, has been telling how, *en route* to India, he had hot disputations with Army officers, and was "nearly thrown overboard." Evidently, he was travelling first-class—as a Labour "leader" *should* do!

A Belated Move.

We never hoped much from the inconclusive Mexican policy of President Wilson, and we are by no means surprised that "watchful waiting" has at length been exchanged for active intervention. The arrogant blustering of Huerta has furnished the Washington authorities with a sound excuse for the abandonment of an untenable position, and the way has thus been opened for speedy progress through war to peace. Britishers will observe with some interest that a direct slight upon the Stars and Stripes has been potent to arouse resentment in quarters where the imperilment of European interests, and worse, was viewed with seeming indifference. The present embarrassments of the United States Government have wholly arisen from its initial failure to intervene effectively for the restoration of order.

Result of Our First Sporting Competition. £500 won. See page 28.

Wassailers, Beware!

We are by no means enamoured of the Government's Inebriates Bill, which without serious debate has received a second reading in the House of Commons. Like the Mental Deficiency Act, to which it bears a strong family likeness, the measure contemplates large encroachments upon individual liberty and seeks to arm existing authorities with an alarming measure of arbitrary power. A sharp distinction is drawn between drunkards who have been guilty of crime and those whose follies have taken a less mischievous course. In the case of the first, it is proposed that penal consequence shall be to some extent remitted in favour of "remedial" treatment in recognised "retreats." No matter how trivial his offence, the "criminal inebriate" will in fact be detained "during his Majesty's pleasure." The ordinary drunkard will be offered a choice of "cures." He may take a pledge of total abstinence and submit to a voluntary guardianship, in which case he will go scot free. Should he prove unable or unwilling to forego the joys of Bacchus, he too will be compulsorily relegated to a "home" of the approved pattern. Doubtless, it is all very "scientific," but it is confoundedly grandmotherly.

Whist! The Bogey Man!

Stimulated by the advent of Spring, the Head Constable of Liverpool has been looking out for a job. There being apparently no trace of serious crime within the area of his control, he has turned his withering gaze upon those sinks of iniquity where, under the shameless guise of "recreation" or "charity," the game of whist is basely played for gain. To his unfeigned horror, he has learned that such prizes as gold watches and suites of furniture have been put up for competition at recent "drives," while it is not unlikely that grand pianos, motor bicycles, and suburban villas may shortly tempt the cupidity of the populace. In these circumstances the worthy policeman has determined to put his foot down, and his fiat has gone forth that "such whist-drives will henceforth be removed from the category of simple recreations." Moth-eaten statutes are to be set in motion, and big trouble is in store for somebody. It is understood that the Head Constable has no objection to a purely friendly "rubber," while in the case of public contests everything will depend on the worth of the prizes. Promoters of such events should furnish a written guarantee that these trophies shall in no case exceed the value of a box of matches or a saveloy.

Not a Word.

What has become of the old-fashioned tradition that full publicity is of the essence of British judicial procedure? The other day at the Guildhall, upon the bare mention of a certain "company" case, the presiding Alderman, the Clerk of the Court, counsel and solicitors, appear to have started off together upon a game of dumb crambo. A Treasury solicitor demanded a three weeks' remand for some person or persons unknown, gracing his application with a profusion of nods and winks, but affording no indication of the nature of the proceedings beyond the bald fact that they had arisen out of the liquidation of "a public company." A certain sworn information was then "put in" without being read, this shuffle being accompanied by impressive stage-whispers which were "not audible in the gallery," as the Parliamentary reporters say. Indeed, throughout the piece, these exalted legal worthies were as "close" as a pack of thieves. Even so, we warn them that they were observed. If they desire absolute secrecy, they must set the law at defiance to the extent of sitting *in camera*. They should then block up all the doors, windows, skylights, keyholes, crevices and cracks and employ the deaf and dumb alphabet.

A Commission's Omissions.

The Royal Commission on the Civil Service, which has recently reported, was regarded in official circles as a "strong" one, and the tepidity of its recommendations has doubtless been hailed with relief in certain quarters. Among the signatories of the Majority Report "labour" is represented by Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P.—a former excise officer—but it is noticeable that Sir Guy Granet, about the only business man on the Commission, has joined with two others in the framing of Minority suggestions. It is proposed to extend the examination system to certain offices now filled by patronage, notably to appointments under the Insurance Act and to those in connection with Labour Exchanges. Having presumably discharged their debts for "services rendered," Ministerialists will scarcely be averse to effecting some such change before the Tories climb back into office. Unhappily, the inquiries of the Commissioners appear to have stopped short of the point at which they might have achieved practical results. The "open" system of selection, which they unanimously commend, is at present largely vitiated by the ineptitude of its competitive tests. The ability to construe Virgil or even to work logarithms is no criterion of fitness for the service of a modern state.

Disquieting Disclosures.

Major Pringle's inquiry into the recent mishap to the "Flying Scotsman" elicited several facts of importance. The driver of the goods train with which the express collided declared that a change had recently been made in the local signalling system, but, "from his point of view as an engine-driver," he preferred the old arrangement, "as it provided more information." It would be interesting to know from whose point of view the new method is regarded as an improvement on the old. Apparently not from that of the signalman, whose account of the affair was of such a nature that Major Pringle thought fit to receive it in private. Apart from the actual cause of the accident, it is noteworthy that, as at Aisgill, collision was immediately followed by an outbreak of fire, which, but for the presence of mind displayed by Guard Trotter, would in all likelihood have added untold horror.

The Party Poison.

The Party virus has got well into the blood of the Labour group. Having sent Mr. Barnet Kenyon, M.P., "to Coventry" for his failure to "toe the line," they have now extended a similar compliment to Mr. William Johnson, the Miners' Member for Nuneaton. These gentlemen have been cast out of the synagogue for their failure to "agree unreservedly to the Party's constitution," or, in plain English, to accept the autocratic decrees of the Ridiculous Ramsay and his satellites. In future they will sit upon the Liberal benches, though it is unlikely that, for the present, at any rate, they will receive the Government Whips. If they are men of sense they will hold aloof from all Parties, retaining their freedom to voice their views without fear or favour. A few really independent Labour men might make things hum in the House of Commons.

English Journalists and Scotch Revilers.

It is possible that when Ramsay the Ridiculous recently scoffed at JOHN BULL journalism, he may have been endeavouring to imitate Carlyle in his belittling of Elizabeth's "God's Englishmen." His brother-Scot, it will be remembered, stigmatised Froude's eulogy of the men who broke the power of Rome and Spain as "exaggerated: what we call John Bullish." We, however, like Froude, stand to our guns, and repel alike the sneers of the Sage of Chelsea and those of the ex-schoolmaster of Leicester Has Ramsay ever read "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers"?

£1,000 for Easy Cricket Forecast. £200 Must be Won. Second Coupon.

The Slump in Wesleyans.

The figures for 1914 show a further decided fall in Wesleyan Church membership. The downward movement began in 1907, and has continued since with very little check. Last year the loss was 505 adult members. This year it will amount to 1,282. The Wesleyan Church now consists of less than 500,000 members—about one-fourth of the number of our weekly readers, for we are well within the mark in saying that two persons read each copy. What is the cause of this decline? We do not for a moment assign it to a growing indifference to *religion*, but to increasing disgust with narrow and bigoted sectarianism. The seed of the churches' decay is in themselves, not in the people. The recent excursions of nonconformist leaders into the arena of bitter political controversy are having the effects we anticipated. This, combined with their pigheaded adhesion to outworn creeds and dogmas, no longer acceptable in these more enlightened times, is spreading a wave of apparent irreligion over the land, and slowly but surely undermining the ancient sacred structures which satisfied the needs of our less curious and critical forefathers. Nevertheless, we remain optimists, for we see in the phenomenon the germs of a religion of common sense and brotherhood.

Poking Fun at Ulster's Pyjamas.

Is it possible that Ulster's resistance to Home Rule is weakening? When we find the *Daily Mail* ridiculing the provision of pyjamas for Ulster volunteers, anything is possible. "A plague of pyjamas has overtaken Belfast," it says, ". . . . now there is one pair of pyjamas for every volunteer. When the next census of pyjamas is taken there will probably be two pairs, for they are still coming into headquarters." Does our great contemporary realise the effect that a statement of this kind is likely to have upon the general public? It is subtle, but it nevertheless suggests that peaceful slumber is one of the ideals of the militant Orangemen. Moreover, we cannot look upon the provision of two suits of pyjamas for each warrior as a "plague." One pair on and one pair off is simply a sanitary requirement. Even sleeping suits need washing occasionally, and, if he has only one *habit de nuit*, what is the poor volunteer to do whilst it is in the wash? A night alarm at such a moment suggests an awkward spectacle.

Bumped or Pushed?

This was the vital question a Shanghai magistrate had to solve a few days ago. A seaman, named Cole, of H.M.S. *Newcastle*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and pushing Tsu Chie Soo off the jetty into the river Whangpoo. Cole's contention was that the place was congested with bales of goods, and that in trying to avoid them he bumped against the Chinaman—with disastrous results to the Celestial. The case was eventually dismissed, but not before a gratuitous insult was hurled at the bluejacket by the magistrate. "Don't forget the bales of goods are more useful than you, so far as we are concerned." Perhaps so. But wait until the guns begin to roar!

Special Reservists' Morals.

If Mr. Asquith won't institute an official inquiry into the Government's alleged plot to "drench Ulster with blood," as the *Express* has it, will he, as War Minister, have the goodness to institute an inquiry into the morals of the Special Reserves—morals apparently so shocking that the Rev. Ronald Symes, Vicar of Kendal, has appointed a special Rescue Sister on the visit of these reserves to the town "to save the girls of the neighbourhood from moral degradation"? And will he at the same time institute an inquiry into the girls, neighbourhood?

A Lie and a Bishop.

There are occasions other than a game of golf when we can excuse a bishop using strong language; wherefore we hereby excuse the Bishop of Sodor and Man. In the course of a labour meeting at Douglas, an agitator named Gill charged his Lordship with dismissing his head gardener because of old age, and putting an Englishman in his place—the truth being that the gardener discharged himself, as he admits, and that the Bishop behaved exceedingly well to him. Thus it was that when the Bishop preached in St. George's on a recent Sunday he characterised the allegation as an untruth so foul that one would not expect it to be uttered by anybody out of hell, and then went on to remark that he wondered why God allowed some people to live, and why there was not a second Flood so that the world might begin all over again. Wasn't it the gentle Elia who said there were at least one or two persons in the world whom he would willingly see hanged? The Bishop has evidently discovered at least one man whom he would willingly see drowned.

Red War.

We never hoped much from the statutory "settlement" of the coal strike of 1912, and we are by no means surprised to learn that the very machinery of "conciliation" has at length precipitated a renewal of strife. Certain Yorkshire coal-owners have gone behind an award of Sir Edward Clarke's—or the miners believe they have, which for practical purposes is much the same thing—and so, once again, the fat is in the fire. With a finely balanced mind and an eminently judicial temper, Sir Edward is admirably equipped for the rôle of arbitrator, and we fancy the owners would have been well advised to interpret his decrees in a liberal spirit. Unhappily, in Yorkshire and elsewhere, the tedious and delicate work of negotiation has been marred by an entire absence of that mutual goodwill which could alone have ensured its success. Some day soon there's going to be a fight to a finish on the coalfields, in which the railwaymen and the transport workers will take an active hand. Are we ready?

Unanswered Queries.

A number of pertinent questions relating to the use of rescue apparatus with submarines were recently addressed to the Admiralty, but we are bound to say that the official replies have left a good deal unanswered. There are upon the market a number of patented devices fitted to ascertain the whereabouts of sunken craft, but, according to Dr. Macnamara, no single specimen of such appliances is in the possession of the Board of Admiralty. The right honourable gentleman afforded no inkling of the official excuse for this extraordinary state of affairs. Even more disquieting was his assertion that an Admiralty patent for a detachable buoy, designed to effect a similar purpose, "had been in existence for several years, but had not been fitted to any completed submarine." Why not?

Careless Coroners.

The scathing comments of Mr. Justice Atkin in the course of the Starchfield trial have served to direct public attention to the place of the coroner's inquest in the legal economy of the nation. We have no wish to prejudge the issue between Dr. Wynn Westcott and the authorities, but the points raised by the Judge transcend the importance of any single case. Viewed in its historic aspect, the inquest is a mediæval survival, and its procedure has lagged far behind modern conceptions of equity. Whatever may have happened at the Starchfield inquest, it is painfully certain that idle hearsay is commonly admitted for the consideration of coroners' juries, while the recognised rules of evidence are too often honoured in the breach.

Another Free Sporting Competition this Week. Particulars and Coupon on page 36.

Doles or Dowries?

A curious echo of the *Titanic* disaster was recently heard in the Southampton County Court. Their first grief healed, certain widows compensated by the White Star Line have ventured a second time upon the chances of matrimony. They now seek to possess themselves of the balance of the compensation money standing to their credit in Court, instalments of which have been paid out to them from time to time. One woman expressed her intention of spending the money on furnishing her new home, while a second proposed to journey to Belfast, where in future she will reside. Judge Gye appears to have been a little shy of these applications, to which, however, he yielded a somewhat reluctant assent. "It seems obviously unfair," observed his Honour, "that the children should be deprived of all compensation when the widow uses it for getting married again." We agree, and are glad to note that his Honour intends to seek the guidance of the Treasury before disposing of future applications. The children are clearly entitled to a sounder guarantee of maintenance than the goodwill of a step-father.

A Ready Reckoner.

Students at Trinity College, Cambridge, are eagerly awaiting the advent of Mr. Ramanujam, an Indian mathematical genius recently "discovered" by the State authorities. Though practically devoid of general education, this dusky "freshman" is said to possess the most powerful head for figures that ever grew on human shoulders. He can solve the most complex of algebraic problems in the twinkling of an eye, not by the musty rules of Todhunter or Colenso, but by—well, that's his secret, which the authorities of the University will seek sedulously to discover. When they have done with him, he will possibly go "on the halls" or be received into the bosom of an Insurance Company. Better still, Mr. Masterman might find him a billet at Buckingham Gate. A man who can work the differential calculus on his thumbnail in the intervals of breakfast should be worth ten ordinary practitioners at the ninepence-for-fourpence sum.

Non Olet!

It is a little ironical that a Chancellor with pronounced "temperance" proclivities should have to thank his stars for an all-round increase in the consumption of dutiable liquor. Yet this is what will happen when Mr. Lloyd George comes to make his Budget statement. Beer is "up," likewise whisky, while even the consumption of costly wines shows an appreciable advance. Like Vespasian of old, the Chancellor may well exclaim, "*Non olet!*" as he tells the figures which narrow the threatened deficit, and thus simplify his task for the coming year. Even with this grateful "windfall," and with a marked improvement in the returns from other branches of the revenue, it is pretty certain that the defenceless taxpayer will be further bled. Meanwhile, as we recently insisted, the Treasury, fettered by obsolete tradition, is virtually at the end of its fiscal resources. In a word, the Party financial system is played out.

A Good Example.

Among the subscriptions recently received by Mr. C. Arthur Pearson, Hon. Treasurer of the National Institute for the Blind, 206, Great Portland Street, London, W., for the campaign which has for its object the cheapening of Braille literature, is one of £15 from a lady, who sent it with a letter to the effect that she had collected the amount at the tables of a bridge party given by a friend of hers. One of our readers adopts a similar course in connection with our "Human Document" Fund. It is an excellent idea.

A Reasonable Rider.

Three stokers of the torpedo-boat destroyer *Albacore* were recently scalded to death by steam from a bursting boiler tube. At the inquest at Chatham it was explained that boiler tubes were subject to periodic inspection and tests. In the light of these assurances, the jury evinced a natural curiosity as to the precise cause of the fatal burst, and one of their number, who seemed to possess considerable technical knowledge, put a series of pertinent questions to the Admiralty witnesses. At the close of the proceedings he proposed, with the assent of his colleagues, to add a rider to their verdict, "that the Admiralty should take greater precautions with that particular type of boiler, for the safety of stokers." Such an expression of opinion was, however, discouraged by the Coroner with the remark that "they could not unduly press a rider." Yet the law surely provides that a jury may amplify their verdict as they choose, without interference from the Coroner. The rider quoted, though unhappily still-born, merits the serious attention of the responsible authorities.

Scandalised Scots.

Doubtless the dour inhabitants of Dunoon, on the Firth of Clyde, are proud of the prudish spirit that pervades their Council. Certain of the members, to save the blushes of their fellow-townsmen, advocate the erection of a screen at the women's bathing station, so that the unco guid in passing may not be affronted by the sight of scantily-clad females sporting in the surf. Another asserted that it was trying for women to go into the sea while men were watching, and supported the idea of the screen. If this be true, the fair bathers of Dunoon must be of a more modest type than those who add charm and interest to our southern shores in summer. We have long understood that the presence of male spectators was the only thing to induce some of the dear girls to go to the trouble of undressing and tripping down to the sea. And who in his heart can blame them? Admiration is the food of beauty, and what is more lovely than the unencumbered female form? Let them erect their screens at Dunoon. We shall still have Dieppe.

Bigots and Belfast.

Having received notice of a procession of pumpuritan deputations against the resolution of the Tramways Committee accepting an advertising contract, of over £4,000 a year, for alcoholic refreshments, the Town Clerk called a special meeting of the Belfast Corporation, the result being that the contract was refused confirmation. The decision means that—whatever the monetary loss—no beer or whisky advertisement may appear in the Belfast tramcars, which are to be exclusively reserved for the announcements of pietists and prigs, cocoa makers, tea blenders, balloon juice manufacturers; and there is a rumour flying through the city that at the next meeting of the Corporation, Alderman Mercier intends to propose a new bye-law that anybody heard mentioning whisky, ale, stout, or other alcoholic refreshment in a public tramcar shall be prosecuted with the utmost rigor of the law.

A Queer Pigspeare Scholar.

In a sense, the late Sir Edwin Durning Lawrence was the queerest of all the crowd who maintain that Bacon wrote Shakespeare. To most readers, the fact that three consecutive lines in "Antony and Cleopatra" begin with "Pompey," "In," and "Got," would convey nothing, even if they noticed it; but as P-I-G spells "pig," Sir Edwin held it as going to prove that Shakespeare was Bacon in disguise. We will not repeat the old jest that it is all gammon; but it is a bit of a mystery.

Don't forget the Pen Coupon on page iii of cover.

Gilbertian Justice.

The Solons who sit upon the Maidenhead Bench were recently called upon to deal with the case of Wm. Adcock, who was summoned for the non-payment of £1 17s. 1½d. for poor rate. It was admitted that the defendant was in an impoverished condition and quite *unable to pay the money;* whereupon the Magistrates retired to consider the case—as if it required any consideration! Here was a necessitous poor man summoned for his inability to contribute to the poor rate—a fund from which he himself could very well have done with assistance. Horrified by his contumacious conduct in failing to produce what he did not possess, the Magistrates made an order for the payment of the money, or in default seven days' imprisonment. If the poor are to be imprisoned for not helping the poor, what should be done to the rich who evade the obligation? We must keep our eye on the "great unpaid" who dispense (with) justice at Maidenhead.

A Ready Remedy.

Following upon the disastrous fire at the village of Little Chesterford, in Essex, the Saffron Walden Rural District Council have acted with commendable promptitude and decision, and have incidentally afforded an interesting object-lesson in the possibilities of rural housing. Having first ascertained the decision of the owners with respect to the rebuilding of the demolished dwellings, they have intimated their intention of acquiring sites for the immediate erection of such cottages as may be needed for the complete re-housing of the homeless villagers. This is good business, and we compliment the Rural Councillors upon their prompt and effective handling of a difficult situation. At the same time, we would take leave to remind all whom it may concern that the Housing Acts, which will enable the Saffron Walden Council to cope with this sudden emergency, are equally at the disposal of any rural authority faced with "house famine" and its attendant ills.

A Prickly Problem.

Charged at Rochester with larceny, Gloria Leslie, to employ her latest *alias*, was said to have served five terms of imprisonment for various offences. In the thirty years of her life she had sounded the depths of human degradation. Latterly her state of mind had been closely considered by the prison doctors, and at Rochester, Sir Thomas Clouston, the eminent lunacy expert, attended to testify to her mental condition. Though apparently sane, she had, he said, no conception of right and wrong, and was to that extent irresponsible for her felonious acts. This considered medical opinion failed to evoke the mercy of the Bench, and the prisoner was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour. Crime must of course be suppressed, and even a moral imbecile may perhaps be restrained by fear, though the history of Gloria Leslie would scarcely confirm this view. Is there no better way?

A Chivalrous Coroner.

The Saltburn Coroner is evidently a man of sense and sympathy. At a recent inquest upon a local bank manager, an inspector of the National Provincial Bank declared that the books and accounts for which the deceased was responsible were in perfect order, and that his reputation for honesty was therefore unsmirched. The Coroner explained that he had expressly requested the attendance of the inspector "to prevent people hereafter saying that the deed was committed through the books being wrong." We commend this salutary procedure to other coroners who may be confronted with circumstances of similar delicacy. Whatever be thought of the ethics of suicide, the memory of an honest man is clearly entitled to protection from the slanderous whisperings of malicious tongues.

A Wicked Scandal.

In a spirit of tragic topsyturvydom, the Home Office has at length laid criminal information against the owners and manager of the Senghenydd Colliery, in respect of breaches of the Coal Mines Regulation Act. The mere fact of such a step casts a severe reflection upon the officials charged with the administration of the Act. A whole valley must be desolated and four hundred lives sacrificed ere the apathy of the authorities can be stirred. Should conviction result, we presume that paltry fines will be thought meet ransom for the lives of brave men. Further comment on the wretched scandal would be trite and profitless. There are no words.

Our New Competition.

Hearty congratulations to the winners in our first Racing Competition! Particulars will be found on page 28.

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

HOOP-LA!

[According to Sir John Barker, "The crinoline is coming back again."]

We understand the crinoline
Will very soon again be seen,
And that the scanty skirt now worn
By womankind will be forsworn;
No longer will their frocks disclose
Trim calves encased in silken hose;
Nor will their garments, like a sheath,
Proclaim the lack of clothes beneath:
Now we are sorry we confess—
We rather like the modern dress.

But randy rectors, and their kind,
Are doubtless of another mind;
They will rejoice to know that they
Will need no more to turn away
When they encounter in the street
A female figure, svelt and sweet—
To turn away, for fear the sight
Should give them an uneasy night:
So female beauty operates
Upon some weak, unhealthy pates!

But, after all, I'm far from sure
The crinoline WILL *prove more pure:*
What price when stormy winds do blow,
And—all that sort of thing, you know?
What price when climbing steps and stairs?
CAN *she conceal the things she wears*
From eyes salacious that see
Evil in dainty lingerie?
Ah, no; the crinoline, we guess,
Will prove the more alarming dress.

THE WEEK'S "BISCUIT."

[*"Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical compliment. Below we present, each week, and in all good humour, the "Biscuit" to the individual or periodical named, in respect of the achievement or utterance indicated.*]

For printing in its "4th edition"—which is published in the sole interest of the backers of horses—an article against sporting sweepstakes by the Secretary of the Anti-Gambling League.

THE STAR
Takes the Biscuit.

HOW ELECTORS ARE FOOLED.

FOOLS, PARASITES AND MUGWUMPS—THE FRAUD OF "POPULAR GOVERNMENT"—THE "INQUEST OF THE NATION"—DEMOCRATIC "BOSSES."

The other day Mr. Asquith demanded that any charges which the Opposition wished to formulate against the Government should be submitted to the "great inquest of the nation"—the House of Commons! The phrase was an unfortunate one—for no tribunal is chosen in a more haphazard, *ad captandum* manner than the members of a coroner's jury. But, all the same, the phrase quite correctly reflects the constitution of the House of Commons—which, as at present elected, has as much right to claim that it represents the people as the House of Lords has that it represents the true aristocracy of the nation. Both chambers are frauds—the only difference between them being that the Upper House knows it, and says nothing about it. The other is always prating of its "mandates." Apart from the fact that it is elected by less than half of the adult male population—that is to say, by less than a quarter of the adult community—the *method* of its election is such as to deprive it of any vestige of title to speak and act in the name of the People.

DEMOCRATIC "BOSSES."

Some years ago, Sir Henry Maine wrote a very learned work on the subject of popular government, and it would be interesting if some magician would put us into communication with his disembodied spirit so that we might know how far the recent history of England had confirmed or modified his views. Human nature does not change much; evolution is such a very slow process that we have to think in terms of thousands of years in order to grasp its teaching. We cannot, however, help surmising that the philosopher would tell us that, as he had foreseen, we are, in England, as in the United States, suffering from that which is seen everywhere to be the outcome of "popular government"—"Bossism," or the rule of the Man Behind the Scenes.

But these "Bosses," or "oligarchs of machine politics," as they have been so magniloquently styled, sometimes overrate the patience and apathy of the multitude, and are occasionally—but too seldom—reminded somewhat rudely that even the electoral worm will turn. The initial struggle in America, for instance, as to who should be the temporary Chairman of the New York State Convention, prior to the presidential election, resulted in the Bosses being defeated—Mr. Roosevelt, for the time being, triumphing over them. Of course, there have always been, and always will be, these "Bosses" in public affairs—that is human nature. For instance, in *The Times* of September 27th, 1810—more than a century ago—there was a reference to a parliamentary contest then pending in the County of Gloucester, and exception was taken to the influence of the two houses of Beaufort and Berkeley, which was regarded as of a corrupting character. But that was, at any rate, the influence of two old families who had an immense stake in the country; and it was greatly to be preferred to the influence of a secret caucus composed of men who are often in no way remarkable for either wealth, tradition, or illuminating intellect.

THE "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE."

It is no exaggeration to say that in the United Kingdom to-day the people who have votes exercise no real control over the destinies of their country. And in this respect there is not a pin to choose between the two "great Parties." In each the caucus is supreme. The power of the many is gathered into the hands of the few; and the "Bosses," in the name of their dupes, pursue their own personal ends, whilst pretending to act as the disinterested proxies of the rank and file. What a game it is! Now contrast the theory with the practice. All political organization is presumed to be based upon what is called democratic principle, by which is meant that it is built up on the principle of a pyramid—broad at the base and gradually narrowing to an apex. Let us illustrate the idea. Take a county constituency. You begin by calling in each village or township a "meeting" of the rank and file of the "Party," and from them elect a local or Ward Committee. Each of these committees in turn elects members to "represent" them on a "Central Council." This Central Council then deputes certain of its members to act as a Selection Sub-Committee, and this sub-committee proceeds to "select" the candidate—who is then formally presented to and approved by the Central Council. Thus, by a gradual process of delegation, the rank and file of the Party are supposed to choose the man who is to represent their views in Parliament. Such is the theory. Now observe the practice. Instead of a pyramid "broad based upon the people's will" the Party machine begins to work from above downwards; in fact, it is made to resemble a pyramid standing on its apex, with its base in the air. Let us follow the electioneering farce step by step. We will take the Eastern Division of Mudshire. On the prospect of a vacancy, Mr. Plobus Higgins, the "Sausage Maker on the great scale," as Carlyle would style him, calls upon his friend Mr. Algernon Midas, and says, "There is going to be a vacancy in the constituency. Whom shall we select?" Having fixed upon somebody who is, if possible, a greater fool than either of themselves, and of whom, therefore, neither of them can feel jealous, they summon the Party agent and tell him to call together the sub-committee and "submit" the name in order that it may in turn be "submitted" to the General Committee for adoption! Then the candidature is announced, a meeting of the Party throughout the Division is called, the candidate makes his bow, and the rank and file are gulled into believing that they have themselves chosen him! Thus are so many fools, parasites, and mugwumps returned to the House of Commons—where, beyond voting themselves £400 a year, they serve no earthly purpose—of either use or ornament.

"THE INQUEST OF THE NATION."

And Mr. Asquith quite seriously—for it is an obsession with him that Parliament is a reality—talks, as we say, about the House of Commons as the "great inquest of the nation." True, inquests are held on corpses, and, in that sense, the phrase is correct; but the jury has its verdicts always in its pockets. It is divided, for practical purposes, into two camps—their respective verdicts being summed up in the words "Aye," and "No." By the time this issue is published they will be giving their "considered judgment"—another Asquithian phrase—on the Ulster question; and if we were to offer a prize for the exact figures of the division, every reader could win it—by the simple process of counting heads before the "inquest" opens! *What* a game it is!

TALKY-TALKY.

UP IN THE AIR AND DOWN IN THE EARTH.

About a week ago the following advertisement appeared :

WANTED.—A private secretary to American financier. Willing to travel and with a thorough knowledge of secretarial duties. Salary £500 per annum.

One person who answered the attractive announcement received this mimeographed letter from a Mr. J. T. Byrne, LL.D., addressed from 60 and 61, Harcourt Street, Dublin:

Your name has been given me by an American friend who has already arranged for a Secretary, and he tells me that you would be likely to make a good Secretary for a new Company now in course of formation. I enclose you herewith a first proof of the Prospectus for your careful perusal. I have a vacancy for a Secretary in this company. Salary £500 per annum to commence. Residence in Liverpool or London as required. I have also a vacancy for a Director at a salary of £250 per annum. No investment is necessary, as I will qualify a good man. If you can assist me in introducing a good man in the latter connection to act as Director it will mutually assist. Of course this appointment is only open to a man who can be of use to the Company, and I would be glad to hear from you in the matter. I shall be in Liverpool to-morrow for a few days, so kindly address me at the Midland Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, or care of my associate Captain J. Douglas-Ewen, 8, Victoria Street, Liverpool. If you are not interested in the matter I should be obliged if you would return me the enclosed Prospectus; but if you require further copies, please let me know.

Disregarding the manner in which names appear to have been obtained, on the face of it the offer is of a generous nature. A little examination, however, will probably arouse doubt. First of all, it is strange that the tender of the secretaryship should have been made to so many persons, particularly as practically the only qualification is the ability to nominate a director, who himself is to be paid £250 a year and to be asked for no subscription—his qualifying shares being given him. True, it is stated vaguely that the £500 salary will be paid only to a person who can be "of use" to the Company—and from a glance at the "first proof" prospectus it seems indeed to be a concern needing help. The document relates to the British Portland Slag, Cement and Coal Company, Limited, modestly capitalised at £1,000,000 in Ordinary shares of £1 each. Everything in regard to it is very much in the air. Blanks are left for the names of the Directors, Solicitors, Auditors, Brokers, and—of course—the Secretary.

ODDY'S ODD PROPOSITION.

The Company is being formed mainly to purchase the "patent rights, process and other interests and rights" of a certain Mr. Thomas Oddy and the Oddy Development Syndicate (British Isles) Limited, as well as an as yet unnamed colliery at Barnsley and three others—the first of which has apparently not reached the producing stage, the second has earned "good profits" (of unstated amount) though further working capital is required, and the third has merely been "proved by boring." The anonymous Barnsley colliery is by a "conservative" estimate, based on the 1913 results, "expected" to yield a yearly profit of £40,000; the three other collieries, by some mysterious mental process calculated as "in proportion to Barnsley result," £10,000; while £250,000 is boldly put down, apparently on the strength of another estimate—a vein of anonymous authorship—of a ten million ton per annum supply of slag! The purchase price of the Barnsley concern has been fixed at £250,000—payable in cash! We can quite understand the reluctance of its present owners to be associated with such a nebulous proposition and think it very unlikely indeed that, when issued to the public, anything like a quarter of a million will be provided by investors. Nor do we think they will find anybody to underwrite the issue, even in return for the tempting commission of 12½ per cent.

The Reports, too, are deliciously naïve. The place of honour is given to that of Mr. P. J. McAndrew, B.E., B.A., described as "Engineer of the All-Red Route"—whatever that may mean—who says that he has "no hesitation in stating" that he will "always" specify the Company's cement in any work with which he is associated. He, therefore, binds himself to show this preference even should an undeniably superior and cheaper cement—which we should not be surprised to find existed—be placed before him!

BUFFS IN A BOGGLE.

"ANTE DILUVIAN" FINANCE AT LIVERPOOL.

In its April Orders, the Grand Lodge of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes has "suspended" three Liverpool members. In a full session of the Lodge, the following resolution was unanimously carried:

That Brothers R. Percy, H. Bibbey, and W. Nash be suspended the Order.

This action followed upon a comprehensive Report from a Committee of Inquiry, which had investigated the affairs of the Lancashire Provincial Grand Lodge. The three gentlemen named were officers of this body, and at the time of the Committee's first visit to Liverpool legal proceedings against one of them were pending in the local Courts. At the instance of the Order these were withdrawn, and a searching inquiry was instituted. The financial affairs of the Lancashire Lodge were then found to be in inextricable confusion, and for this unhappy state of affairs the Committee had little difficulty in apportioning blame. They found that:

Brother Bibbey, as Secretary of the Lancashire Lodge, had kept his books in such a manner that no proper audit could be taken.

There had been no balance-sheet prepared for the preceding year. Reasons given by the Secretary were not satisfactory. He had, in fact, been guilty of culpable negligence.

So much for Brother Bibbey. The strictures of the Committee of Inquiry have since been fully endorsed by the Executive of the Order. The Report goes on to speak of the circumstances of the Lancashire Widows' and Orphans' Fund:

We found that persistent mis-statements had been made at every meeting from the early part of 1911, viz.: reporting more in Bank than actual; reporting less in hand than actual; also many times wrong totals, clearly showing that Secretary could not have been keeping accounts as he should, or he must have known the amount in the fund apart from the Treasurer's statements. That both officials had again been guilty of gross and culpable negligence.

Brother Nash was Treasurer of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, and all three officers are thus involved in a common condemnation.

The Order has a membership of over a million, many of whom are among our readers. Scanning the above extracts, we are tempted to wonder whether "suspension," with all its nameless terrors, was quite an appropriate penalty.

A READING MYSTERY.

GUARDIANS AND "BOARDED OUT" BOY.

We are asked to give publicity to the following case, in the hope that it will either meet the eye of the lad concerned—in which event he is asked to communicate with us—or that it will lead to a disclosure of his fate. All we wish to do is to clear up yet another mystery, and set at rest the torturing doubts of a heartbroken mother. A youth named Walter Evans, aged 15, suddenly disappeared from Berghfield, near Reading, in September last. The story is pathetic. A widow, finding the battle of life too much for her while she was encumbered with her child, was obliged to allow the Cricklade Guardians to adopt it. He was boarded out with a Mr. Pickett, who, in addition to other things, was a market gardener. Young Evans, it seems, used to fill in his time after school hours in looking after the garden, and occasionally hawked the produce. He went to bed as usual one evening—so the story runs—his bed was empty in the morning and his mother has heard nothing of him since. An advertisement has been inserted in the press offering a reward for information of his whereabouts, but without result, and there the Guardians seem to think their responsibility ends. We, however, disagree. Very conflicting conjectures are current regarding the lad's disappearance, and we suggest to the Board that a full inquiry into so mysterious an affair should take place at once. Disappearances are, unfortunately, only too common—but this instance presents several peculiar features, and is worthy of the closest investigation. The longer such investigation is delayed, the greater, of course, the difficulty in arriving at a satisfactory conclusion.

Huge Cash Prizes for placing 1, 2 and 3. Another Sporting Competition. See page 36.

BILKING THE CHANCELLOR.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "SHOTS FROM A LAWYER'S GUN."

Working men, the very last as a rule able to realise how they are humbugged and made fools of at election times, are beginning to see that their so-called 9d. for 4d. (and the extra taxes on labour, beer and baccy) are not such "rare and refreshing fruits" as were represented to them; whilst it remains a hard, bare fact, which no amount or argument or shuffling can gainsay, that the working man and the middle-class always bear the brunt of the taxes of the country.

When results are summarised and examined it is found that really wealthy men pay less in total taxes now than they did before the People's Budget; whilst those of lower social standing have to make up the deficiency.

Hitherto the Income Tax or the increased super-tax has not shown anything like the proportionate return that was anticipated or which should have been. This is simply because to avoid the super-tax is easy, and the corner of the veil shall be lifted to exemplify a few of the devices which daily find greater favour.

How it is Done.

A owns big estates, the income from which amounts to tens of thousands. He mortgages them to their utmost capacity and invests the capital in some sound undertaking abroad, like Canadian Pacifics, French Rents, or Japanese Bonds, with instructions to accumulate the interest—in other words, that each and every dividend shall, as it accrues, be invested in more stock at the then current rates. A returns his net income after deducting mortgage interest. His conscience does not prick him in that he omits foreign investments, because he is receiving no income from them.

B has no estates to mortgage, but has an income from investments. He calls in all his English mortgages, realises all his shares in English industries, and takes a trip to the Continent. There he employs foreign professional gentlemen, bankers, lawyers, and accountants, and under their direction re-investments are made in any sound undertaking—often in the same companies which previously carried this capital; the income is paid abroad and no return thereof is rendered in England.

C is punctilious. He is an ardent chapel-goer and a supporter of the Government, but in his heart of hearts he cannot agree to pay for armaments. In public he applauds the suppression of the dukes and the abuse of lords and lordlings. But he only lends his money on mortgage; and every increase of taxation he chains to the interest until the unfortunate mortgagee has to carry the whole burden of taxation—thus C collects his interest clear of all taxation whatsoever.

D is a smaller man. He objects to be made a tax-collector under the Insurance Act. Nothing is easier. The law compels an employer to pay in respect of every person employed, but the law cannot compel an employer to employ. Hence D issues a printed notice that:

> He will refuse to employ any person *unless each person* seeking employment produces at the beginning of each week's employment a regulation *card*, in order, and *stamped in advance* to the full amount required.

Many other examples could be narrated, but the above suffices to show that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is sometimes outwitted.

Apart from all this, it is not just or right that Income Tax should be calculated and claimed in advance. It is not "cricket" that tax gatherers should be encouraged to act unjustly in their dealings with men who dare not resist their depredations; and it is incentive to evasion to permit tax collectors to put every obstacle in the path of those whose incomes are so low that they are entitled to abatement or to return of income tax deducted by others on their slender investments. It is more than provoking that tax collectors should take years to decide some disputed matters and use such circumlocutionary methods of red-tapeism that a quick, fair, or inexpensive mode of procedure is an impossibility. It is ridiculous to permit the occupant of a cottage at, say, 2s. a week to deduct income tax, which of course is never paid over to the Government. It is tyranny to force small struggling business men to employ accountants and lawyers before they can ensure just treatment.

LITIGANTS BEWARE!

FUNNY FISH IN THE LEGAL SWIM.

On March 6th, 1913, the ten-year-old son of Mr. Alphonse Grannell was crossing the Woolwich Road, East Greenwich, when he was knocked down by a London and North-Western Railway motor-van, sustaining severe injuries, from which he died the same day. At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of "accidental death," exonerating the driver of the van from blame. In these circumstances, Mr. Grannell was indisposed to embark upon litigation, preferring to rely upon the generosity of the Company. The family were in the poorest circumstances—the father, a ship's clerk, had been for some time out of employment—and it was with the greatest difficulty that sufficient money could be scraped together to afford the dead child decent burial. These facts were fully related to the Company in a letter from the mother, sorrowfully requesting a grant of ten pounds towards immediate expenses. In the end, the distressed parents were forced to content themselves with a solatium of half this amount.

Here the matter would probably have rested, but for the gratuitous intervention of the Metropolitan Compensation Agency, of Bishopsgate, E.C. It is the practice of firms of this kind to watch the papers for reports of accidents, and to propose litigation to the relatives of persons injured or killed. The Agency approached Mr. Grannell, offering to "take up" his case, and some sort of bargain having been struck he was at once referred to "the Agency's solicitors," Messrs. Raymund Burrow and Co., of Holborn. From correspondence with this firm, Mr. Grannell seems to have understood that he would incur no financial liability beyond that of paying them a shilling in the pound upon any compensation award which, through their instrumentality, he might ultimately obtain. Certain solicitors of the less reputable sort have not scrupled to avail themselves in this fashion of the touting efforts of "compensation agencies." It is sufficient for our present purpose that the letter embodying the offer of Messrs. Raymund Burrow and Co., has since been impounded by the Court.

As early as November last, Mr. Grannell was informed that a writ had been issued against the London and North-Western Railway Company, in respect of his child's death, and that counsel had been retained on his behalf. Four months elapsed, when it was at length clear that the trial could not be much longer delayed. On the very eve of the hearing, however, Mr. Grannell learned to his dismay that his counsel had returned his brief, and withdrawn from the case. He at once communicated with the barrister, seeking an explanation of this procedure. He was informed that counsel had received no fee, and was apparently unwilling to rely upon the professional obligation of Messrs. Burrow and Co. At about this time Mr. Grannell received a letter from the solicitors, offering to return his papers to enable him to instruct other lawyers. Here is an extract from the letter:—

> Counsel has returned his brief this afternoon, although we must say we are surprised at his doing so, seeing the time he has had it in his possession. Having regard to the personal interest he has taken in the case and your and his frequent communications, we should have thought you had a personal understanding with him.

It is true that the barrister had adopted the somewhat unusual expedient of corresponding direct with his lay client, but there may have been special reasons for this course. The suggestion, however, that there was an "understanding" between them was in any case a gross reflection upon his professional conduct. It implied, moreover, an entire negation of the terms agreed between Mr. Grannell and the solicitors.

At the trial of the action the plaintiff was unrepresented, and the jury found for the defendants. Judgment for the Railway Company was recorded, and but for his penniless condition Mr. Grannell would doubtless have been mulcted in heavy costs. In summing up, the Judge employed terms which have already been noticed in these columns. Assuming that negligence had been proved, the law, he said, could afford no redress for the death of a dependent child. This dictum has long been settled law. It should have been a commonplace to the solicitors for the "compensation agents," who had nevertheless buoyed up the plaintiff with false hopes of success.

£1,000 for Easy Cricket Forecast. £200 Must be Won. Second Coupon

REALLY, RENTOUL!

INSOLENT BEHAVIOUR OF A CITY JUDGE.

His Honour Judge Rentoul, of the City of London Court, has long borne a reputation for "eccentricity," but when his fads and foibles are permitted to impede the course of justice the time has come for protest. An Oxford Street tailor of repute recently sued a Notting Hill publican for the sum of £1 0s. 9d., the price of clothes supplied. Having agreed to pay "cash on delivery," the defendant had neglected to observe his undertaking. Judge Rentoul first took exception to the absence of the plaintiff, declaring that he "never came to that Court, and so he had never had a chance of knowing why he parted with his goods so readily." This inane observation was actually addressed to the plaintiff's representative, who was present in Court as the responsible deputy of his employer. It would appear that the inordinate vanity of the learned Judge can be appeased by nothing less than the personal attendance of busy tradesmen who may have occasion to resort to his Court for the recovery of a twenty shilling debt. They should, perhaps, appear in sackcloth, and lie prone upon their faces throughout the proceedings.

From fussy banalities of this sort, his Honour proceeded to direct insult. "There are many respectable traders in Cheapside," he declared, "and I have never seen any of them here." What if it were true? A tradesman has surely a right to conduct his business in his own way, and to employ or avoid legal process according to his notions of expediency. By what right does Judge Rentoul question the motives of suitors who invoke his aid? It is his duty to test the justice of a plaintiff's action, and to enter judgment without irrelevant comment. A Judge who uses the Bench as a "coward's castle" from which to utter barbed sneers is unworthy of his place.

After a further pointless observation to the effect that "the plaintiff was, he believed, a Freemason," the Judge made a futile order for payment at the rate of threepence a month. At this rate the debt, which is not disputed, will be liquidated in seven years! It is clear that Judge Rentoul intended this award to be a virtual denial of justice. "I would much rather," he said, "that the plaintiff did not come to this Court," and further declared that in future cases he would refuse to make orders in his favour. His debtors may henceforth defraud him with impunity, as far as Judge Rentoul is concerned. In all future suits at his instance judgment for the defendant will be automatically entered, irrespective of the merits of the case! A Judge of inferior degree presumes to drive a respectable citizen from the bar of the King's Courts. What is his Honour's size in wigs?

COAT AND CLOTH.

UNSATISFACTORY "CASH WITH ORDER" TRADERS.

In connection with the provision of accommodation for such typically innocent appendages of rural life as poultry-houses, there seems to be a curse. Few people, it would appear, are able to enter upon the business without being infected with the disease of dilatoriness in delivering goods paid for. The most notorious delinquent is, of course, Cooper, of the Old Kent Road; but A. Moyse and Co., of 430A, Mile End Road, E., seem also to be infected. As in the case of Cooper, Moyses' terms "in all cases are cash with order." A Welsh reader sent them 34s. early in March, but has not yet received the goods, and two letters he has written demanding their attention to the matter have been ignored. One of our representatives who visited the address was surprised to find that, despite the elaborate catalogue, the firm's premises are merely a yard and a small workshop, one employee only being visible. A youth of about twenty years of age represented himself as the proprietor, and offered in excuse of the non-delivery an explanation that he had been very busy but hoped to clear off arrears very soon. Although articles in the catalogue range in prices up to £16, the value of the whole of the stock of timber and the contents of the workshop together hardly seem to exceed that amount.

Our young friend would do well in future to cut his coat according to his cloth.

A MEAN SUBTERFUGE.

WANTED—THE OWNERS OF 965, GARRATT LANE, TOOTING.

Can anyone supply us with the name and address of the owners of 965, Garratt Lane, Tooting, S.W.? A poor father is anxiously seeking the information, and has appealed to us owing to a peculiar difficulty.

As long ago as the 20th May, 1911, Frederick Swain, a child of 7, whilst passing the premises trod on a coal plate, which gave way and let his right leg down, inflicting such injuries that he had to be detained in St. Thomas's Hospital for six weeks, and unfortunately there is little doubt that he is maimed for life. The premises are, or at any rate were at that time, an empty shop. The father ascertained that Messrs. Learoyd and Co., Solicitors, Lion Chambers, St. George's Square, Huddersfield, were acting in connection with the property. He claimed compensation, and the following is the reply received:—

> We have submitted your letter to our clients, and they wish us to ask you how you can suggest that they are in any way liable for the injuries sustained by your client. The coal grate referred to is on private premises and not on the highway, and only a day or two before the accident it had been examined and put in complete order. Your client was playing about on the premises and was a trespasser, and if he injured himself whilst doing that which he had no right to do, the owners of the property are not responsible. We must leave him to take such course as he thinks fit.

Except to say that the coal grate is on the highway and was dangerous to passengers—as the police report clearly shows—and that the child was not "playing about on the premises," we will pass no comment.

Mr. Swain's solicitor next asked for the name and address of the owners of the premises, but this Messrs. Learoyd and Co. declined to supply. Exhaustive inquiries were then made of the Rating and Taxing officials, the Sanitary authorities, and even the local political organisations—but to no effect. By this time Mr. Swain had spent a considerable sum in legal expenses and his child's illness, and, becoming exasperated at being baulked in this manner of his right to legal redress, he wrote threatening to take proceedings against Messrs. Learoyd and Co., who sent the following extraordinary reply:—

> We cannot, contrary to instructions, disclose the names and addresses of our clients. If you take proceedings against us as you threaten, then you will be only throwing money away, because we are not the owners, and not even the agents for the property. We are merely solicitors for the mortgagees.

Mr. Swain informs us that he has not the money to pursue the matter, but perhaps this publicity may be the means of running the cowardly owner or owners to earth.

CONSIDERATION *versus* CHARITY.

WHAT WOULD POOR SAM LEWIS HAVE SAID?

Under the will of the late Mr. Sam Lewis—the money-lender-philanthropist—a trust was created to provide dwellings for the respectable poor. Excellent premises were erected in Liverpool Road, Islington, about six years ago, let off in one, two or three rooms, at weekly rents ranging from 1s. 7d. to 6s. 5d. Until lately, the tenants have been living in peace, and doubtless bearing the memory of the founder in grateful recollection. A few weeks ago, however, they were informed that the rates—which had, up till then, been included in the weekly rent—as from March 26th, would be separated. The majority naturally put on one side the weekly coppers representing the required proportion, anticipating that the lump sum would become due about June 26th—but their frugality has, in many cases, proved unavailing, for they have now received a rude shock, in the shape of a demand note requiring immediate payment, the amount (for three rooms about 17s.) being quite prohibitive for most of the poor tenants. The dwellings accommodate some two hundred families, mostly living from hand to mouth, and many of them are being forced to find fresh—but, we fear, not so sweet—quarters, and even then fearing summonses.

A little consideration towards the respectable poor is worth a great deal of charitable relief from the rates. What would poor Sam Lewis have said?

More "Bullets" Holiday Prizes. Bank Notes to be Won. See page 34.

A BOORISH BUTCHER.

CHEAP MEAT AND BOLD BANTER AT ROTHERHAM.

If we are to believe Mr. Charles L. Des Forges, the Town Clerk of Rotherham, the Borough is cursed with a rude butcher—one Foulsom, who recently occupied premises in Imperial Buildings—the Rotherham Council's "white elephant." The place, it seems, was built for a market, but for some reason or other the goods displayed did not attract buyers. Whether it was that the shopkeepers were too polite to their customers, or their goods of too superior a quality, history does not relate—but the fact remains that comparatively few burgesses shopped there until Foulsom came on the scene. He is a man with original ideas. After taking the premises from the Corporation, he conceived the plan of opening his shop on two days of the week only—and the wicked creature actually selected Friday and Saturday! Of course, it was said by envious people that he chose those days because they were the only ones in the week when money was plentiful. In other ways Foulsom departed from the orthodox manner of selling beef and mutton in Rotherham. Instead of being satisfied with shouting "Buy! Buy!" he tempted people to do so by holding a "mock auction." This was obviously lowering the dignity of Imperial Buildings. It certainly suited the "common people," who bought their joints and enjoyed the fun. But the respectable police and Council were shocked—and so Foulsom got notice to quit. The Town Clerk voiced another serious complaint:—

> I am also informed that on occasions recently you have caused considerable annoyance by shouting and making fun of one of the butchers in the quadrangle.

This was, of course, an unpardonable sin, and Foulsom had to quit the sacred precincts, although 200 customers signed a petition that he might remain. Like "Jack in the box," however, he soon bobbed up again in another shop, this time privately owned—and the crowd followed him. Here, again, he was guilty of a breach of butchers' etiquette. He persisted in selling out all his stock on Saturday night—and if he could not sell it at his own price, the crowd bought it at their own. So numerous were his customers, that the police frequently summoned him for "obstruction," and in due course he was haled before the Magistrate and fined. Whenever a fresh summons was served upon him, he would pin it to a joint with a common skewer, and thus display it to the vulgar gaze. Nor was this the sum total of his offending. The rude man actually poked fun at the police and Council! Of course, Foulsom had to pay for his little joke—but still he continues. Perhaps if he were to stop his criticism of the police and make a peace offering of a few joints, his breaches of manners might be overlooked.

THE END DRAWS NIGH.

INTENDED PROSECUTION OF NOTORIOUS FLAT TRAPPERS.

It looks very much as though the long and shady innings of the British Clothing Club, of 74, Oldham Street, Manchester, is at last drawing to a close. The local police have received so many complaints concerning the firm that they are now making use of a stereotyped letter for despatch to dissatisfied customers. We append a copy:

> Dear Sir,—In reference to your letter of the . . . respecting unsatisfactory transaction with the British Clothing Company, 74, Oldham Street, Manchester, please inform me by return of post:—
>
> (1) Whether since writing me you have received the goods or money;
>
> (2) Whether in the event of proceedings being commenced against the firm you are willing to attend the City Police Court, Manchester, to give evidence on behalf of the prosecution.
>
> Your travelling expenses would, of course, be paid.
>
> Yours truly,
>
> R. Peacock,
>
> Chief Constable.

Apart from the advantages that will accrue to the more gullible public by this firm being suppressed, we shall be heartily glad to hear of the extinction of this swindle and the others run on the same lines, as dealing with the enormous numbers of complaints and inquiries we are receiving is wearing out our staff.

OVERSEERS' OVERSIGHT.

SORTING 'EM OUT AT SALTASH.

The Saltash Borough Bench have recently been busy granting Distress Warrants in respect of the non-payment of rates. As becomes a judicial body, they appear to have acted with complete impartiality, the dignity of a Parish Councillor having in one instance been menaced by the promise of distraint. In cases of rate-default, however, the first move lies with the Overseers of the Poor, and at St. Stephen's by Saltash the methods of these gentry have been seriously called in question. A prominent member of the local Council has ventured to declare that "they have done the most unjust thing that was ever heard of," and their alleged sins of omission and commission have formed the theme of animated debate.

It seems that with the approach of Lady Day last the Overseers gave a solemn warning that all ratepayers failing to satisfy the Collector by the appointed hour would be proceeded against by summons. In the event, however, stern justice appears to have been gently tempered with mercy. Only a small proportion of the defaulters were required to make their bow to the Magistrates. The procedure followed was thus explained at a recent meeting of the Council:—

> There were a great number who had not paid. They took a few. If the remainder did not pay, they would be prosecuted at the next Petty Sessions.

By discrimination of this sort, the Overseers had, of course, laid themselves open to serious criticism. A Councillor declared that he had been at pains to examine the rate-books for himself, and had discovered the names of seventy citizens who had failed to pay their rates within the prescribed period. Only fourteen of these had been summoned in accordance with the Overseers' notice. His view of the matter was thus vigorously expressed:—

> For the Overseers to take only fourteen out of that list, and then only the poor persons, was manifestly unjust. There were on that list persons who had given and received thousands of pounds for lands. Farmers, solicitors, and other well-to-do persons, including Overseers and Parish and District Councillors, had been left out. If they summoned one, they should summon all. It plainly showed that they favoured the rich and not the poor.

With this scathing indictment of the Overseers, the matter was allowed to drop, whence many persons will doubtless infer that there was no valid defence. It will be for the authorities, if they can, to remove this unhappy impression. They may do well to take notice of the suggestion that the fourteen persons selected for prosecution were among the poorest in the parish, one of them a widow in circumstances of acute distress. There are further rumours which will repay scrutiny. Let there be light!

A GALLOPING CORONER.

INDECENT HUSTLING AT A HOLYHEAD INQUEST.

We cannot compliment Mr. R. J. Roberts, the Holyhead Coroner, upon his conduct of a recent inquest. During shunting operations at the import warehouse of the London and North-Western Railway Company, a cattle driver named John Owen had sustained fatal injuries. The jury were properly anxious to ascertain the precise cause of death, and to this end they addressed a number of pertinent questions to witnesses of the unhappy occurrence. A Home Office Factory Inspector, wishing to present a complete Report to his Department, added a number of independent queries. This was too much for the Coroner, who seems to have been in a desperate hurry. Interrupting a juryman, he observed:—

> If you split straws in this way, we shall never come to an end. The question of whether or not there was negligence is one for a civil court.

We should have expected a sounder definition of the law from a gentleman in Mr. Roberts's position. Not only is a coroner's jury competent to consider the question of negligence, but it is bound in duty so to do. In an extreme case it may even return a verdict of manslaughter, carrying criminal consequences. To characterise the painstaking efforts of jurymen as "splitting straws" was both impertinent and unfair.

Now for Cricket. £1,000 for a Forecast. £200 Must be Won. See page 29.

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You grumble, under your breath, that you don't get a chance to show your ability. Any live man in a live office nowadays is falling over chances every day. But he doesn't recognise them.

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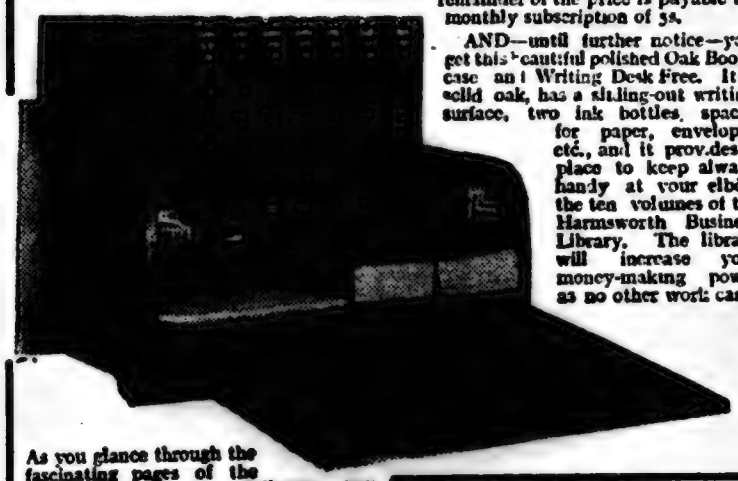

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"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

Roi Georges et sa Reine Marie
Après un temps rigolo,
Leave with reluctance Gay Paree,
Whose folk our thanks we all owe.

The First Lord's love of aerial flight,
Amounting to a passion,
Gives the Prime Minister a fright,
Who drats him for a rash 'un!

To see the final for the Cup,
And glimpse the King as well,
Thousands from Lancashire come up,
And teach us how to yell!

With lovely ladies in Revue
I would not dare dispute,
For, right or wrong, I promise you
I still should feel a brute.

It seems the time's approaching fast
When, weak from Rads.' attacks,
Welsh bishoprics will breathe their last
Beneath McKenna's axe.

When asked to purchase diamond rings
(If you are a greengrocer),
Give him who offers you the things
A firm, emphatic "No, sir!"

A WANTON CONVICTION.

BACKWOODS JUSTICE IN SOUTH WALES.

At a recent session of the Police Court at Yotradgynlais, near Swansea, Albert Thomas, a young man of hitherto irreproachable character, was convicted of embezzling five shillings, and sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment. Despite the decision of the Bench, the man is believed by many to have been wholly innocent of the charge, and a public subscription has been opened to enable him to lodge an appeal. There is a widespread feeling that he has received less than justice at the hands of the Magistrates, and that the evidence tendered at his trial would have sufficed to procure his acquittal before any competent and impartial tribunal.

Like many others in similar case, Thomas, through lack of means, was deprived of skilled advocacy. The case for the prosecution was presented by a local lawyer, whose efforts appear to have been materially reinforced by the intervention of the Clerk of the Court, who entirely misconceived the duties of his office and displayed a palpable bias against the prisoner. In the course of his employment as a baker's roundsman, Thomas was alleged to have taken five shillings from a customer, for which it was said he had failed to account. His employer, Mr. J. W. Morgan, stated upon oath that he could point to only one instance of dishonesty on the part of the defendant. He was, however, permitted to assert that Thomas had stolen his ledger and thereby impeded the efforts of the prosecution. This damaging statement, though entirely uncorroborated, was permitted to pass unchallenged. When Thomas himself denied the suggestion from the witness-box he was curtly informed by the Clerk that "that issue was not before the Court."

This circumstance would have sufficed to vitiate the whole proceedings, even had the evidence of embezzlement been of a reliable nature. It was in fact of the flimsiest character. The customer from whom the money was taken first swore to a particular date and then, questioned by the defendant, admitted that she had no reason for believing that it was not, in fact, a week earlier. Had this witness been skilfully cross-examined her story must have crumbled like a castle of sand. Scarcely more convincing was the testimony of the prosecutor, who seems to have had the scantiest reason for suspecting the prisoner. Upon one material point, moreover, he failed to respond to a direct and pertinent challenge. An entry of a material date in the prisoner's day-book was said by Thomas to be in his employer's hand-writing, though purporting to be in his own. The defendant subsequently repeated this assertion upon oath, thus challenging cross-examination. Again his statement passed unnoticed by the defending solicitor, who similarly failed to interrogate Mr. Morgan upon a matter so vital to his credibility as a witness; and the Magistrates wholly ignored the point!

A weaker case can rarely have been presented, and any intelligent jury would undoubtedly have laughed it out of Court. For some reason or other, however, the Magistrates were determined upon conviction. They turned a deaf ear to the prisoner's plausible explanation of the affair, and ruthlessly deprived him of the benefit of the very grave doubt in which the whole circumstances were involved. Having obtained the necessary funds, Thomas should insistently prosecute his appeal.

Cash for Racing Skill. See Our New Free Sporting Contest Page 36.

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The Graves 45/- Suit lifts its wearer above his fellows and endows him with an appearance altogether smarter and more gentlemanly than the man with clothes of ordinary make. The quality of the material in the Graves Suit is in keeping with its handsome style, and the excellent workmanship and finish are remarkable examples of high-grade tailoring at a strictly moderate price.

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PAY! PAY! PAY!

THE GIRL TOMMY LEFT BEHIND HIM.

Early in 1905 a lad named Haylock enlisted in the Army Medical Corps, and a year later married "off the strength." A twelvemonth afterwards the wife obtained a separation order, the husband being directed to contribute 3s. 6d. a week towards her support, the amount being deducted from his pay. Shortly afterwards he was ordered to South Africa, and while there it came to his knowledge that his wife had been convicted of bigamy—whereupon he naturally applied to the military authorities that the stoppage of his pay might cease. However, although a copy of the record of the woman's conviction was sent to the War Office, the weekly deduction continued. The injustice being unbearable, he wrote to the Magistrate who made the Order, to receive the following answer:—

> In reply to your letter asking that the Maintenance Order made against you on September 17th, 1907, may be rescinded on the ground of your wife's adultery, I am directed by the Hon. J. de Grey to inform you that after correspondence with the War Office, he is of opinion that there is no way in which you can obtain relief from this Order except by your taking out a summons to be heard at this Court for the Order to be discharged on the ground above stated. As you are unable to make the application for this summons in person while you are detained by military duty in South Africa, the Magistrate thinks that he might accept an application on your behalf by a solicitor, if you think fit to instruct some solicitor in this country to make it.

Not having the means to engage a solicitor, the soldier had to grin and bear his burden for another six years—at the end of which period he arrived in this country and took his discharge. His first "official" visit was, of course, to the War Office—where he learnt, much to his astonishment, that although the sum of £37 17s. 6d. had been stopped from his pay while in South Africa, it had not been handed to his wife. He naturally asked that the amount should be paid over to him. The authorities, however, refused to do so until they were in possession of an Order from a Magistrate. After the lapse of a few weeks and the expenditure of what was to the husband a substantial sum, an application was made on his behalf to the South West London Magistrate to discharge the Maintenance Order. The facts were freely stated in Court, and finally the Magistrate annulled the Order, but would not make his direction retrospective, nor would he make an Order for the repayment of the deductions to the ex-soldier. In insisting that a Magistrate should do so before they returned Haylock his money, the War Office authorities were probably, through ignorance, asking for something which was legally impossible.

As there seems to be a deadlock and an all-round shirking of responsibility on the part of officials, we will tell Haylock how to obtain his £37. Let him take out a County Court summons against the Secretary of State for War!

HOT-WATER PIPE, M.P.

[*An expert witness before a House of Commons Committee estimated that every member sitting in the Chamber is equivalent to one foot of hot-water pipe.*]

Full oft an M.P. boasts what he can do,
Of doughty deeds that he feels equal to;
The hour of disillusionment is ripe—
He equals one foot of hot-water pipe.

Therefore let him, when sitting in his place,
Comport himself with meek and lowly face;
His mission but to sit upon a form,
Keeping himself, and other people, warm.

Gone the magnificence that one time sat
Majestic on the brow beneath his hat,
Gone hope of glory, like an empty dream—
Why, the poor chap can't even let off steam!

Sometimes some one, more daring than the rest,
Burns with the passion seething in his chest,
Then in the Chamber is a mighty dust—
Pipe over-heated—very nearly "bust"!

Here is the moral for M.Ps. to view:
Each may be useful, ornamental too;
Show to advantage they of course do not
When temper rises and the pipes get hot!

POLICE AND PUBLIC AGAIN.

GRAVE INJUSTICE TO A RESPECTABLE FULHAM WOMAN.

Living with her husband at 163, Stephendale Road, Fulham, is a Mrs. Sarah Gardiner. On April 11th (the day following Good Friday), he was on night duty. Half an hour after midnight, his wife put on her cloak and started to stroll up the road to meet him. She had not proceeded more than 200 yards from her own doorstep when she was pounced upon by P.C. 670 B. Another constable came on the scene, and the pair of them commenced to force her in the direction of the Police Station. A struggle ensued, and her skirt was torn. While the first officer held Mrs. Gardiner the second fetched the ambulance, on which they threw her, and then wheeled her to the lock-up. Here she was charged with "drunk and disorderly behaviour." An hour after her detention her husband called at the station and saw both his wife and the Inspector. When informed of the charge he was astonished. The Inspector, after a little hesitation, asked the woman to sign a paper, which she wisely refused to do until her husband had perused it and advised her. Upon announcing this determination she was hustled into a cell and Mr. Gardiner was pushed into the street. Here he stood for nearly half an hour, when the officer approached him and said they would let his wife out if he would take her away quietly. Subsequently the case came before Mr. Garrett at the South Western Police Court—and the charge was dismissed. The Police Surgeon's evidence was that Mrs. Gardiner when he saw her an hour and a half after arrest, was recovering from the effects of drink. Here we respectfully submit that the Doctor was mistaken. We have checked every movement of the woman for the whole of the day in question, and are able to say that during the twenty-four hours before her arrest she had not touched any intoxicating drink whatever! Moreover, as a wife and mother her character is above reproach. Although the case was dismissed, the poor woman has endured great humiliation and suffering.

In the interest of society at large the matter cannot be allowed to rest. Even if the Doctor, the Inspector, and Constables were honestly mistaken, she should receive some compensation. We are afraid that the officials jumped hastily to the conclusion that because the woman was alone in the street at 12.30 a.m. she was either of bad moral character or a "pub loafer."

A RICH MAN'S MONOPOLY.

WHY NOT OPEN HYDE PARK TO TAXI-CABS?

Recently, the Licensed Vehicle Workers approached us through their Organising Secretary, Mr. Lawrence Russell, with the view to our co-operating with them in the direction of annulling the regulation forbidding taxi-cabs access to Hyde Park. Many years ago, in the *Sun* newspaper, we commented on this subject, and in recognition of our advocacy the members of the London Cabdrivers' Trade Union sported "*Sun* flags" on their whips. The traffic in the streets of London is now still more congested, and with the advent of the taxi-cab there is stronger reason than ever why this restriction should be withdrawn. Why should not the same facilities as are now granted to the private motor-car be granted to the taxi-cab? Inquiries made in several directions have failed to discover any logical objection to the proposal. Mr. A. Smith, the President of the Union, and Mr. Russell, pointed out that it would greatly relieve the most congested areas; obviate the block of traffic at the corner of Hamilton Place and Park Lane; give the many thousands of strangers who visit London yearly an opportunity of driving through and seeing the beauties of the Park—which as a matter of fact is empty of vehicular traffic to a very great extent (with the exception of two months in the year, viz., June and July); and last, but not least, prevent the loss of thousands of pounds annually to the cab trade.

We are entirely in accord with the Union's view of the situation, and now that the traffic will shortly become more congested than ever, we appeal to the authorities no longer to allow Hyde Park to remain the happy hunting ground of the lucky few.

Nothing but praise for the "John Bull" Pen. Get yours now. Coupon on page iii of cover.

Nervous Catarrh, Run Down.

"PHOSFERINE A REAL BLESSING."

Mr. A. B. PINK, 98, Whalley Range, Blackburn, writes:—"Your Phosferine has proved to me a real blessing. I have been troubled for many years with nervous catarrh, and in April of 1913 my medical adviser informed me that I had it in a chronic state, and he had never seen a worse throat. So I bought a 1s. bottle of Phosferine, and after taking a few doses, to my real astonishment I found my throat clearer, my chest—sore with coughing—easier. This caused me to buy a 2s. 6d. bottle, and before I had finished this I was easier and steadier throughout my whole system, so much so that I was enabled to go on actively with my outdoor speaking campaign as a Municipal Candidate, throughout the latter part of the Summer right into the end of January, 1914. I attribute this change to your Phosferine; it tones one up wonderfully when run down."—February 11th, 1914.

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Nervous Debility	Premature Decay	Anæmia
Influenza	Mental Exhaustion	Backache
Indigestion	Loss of Appetite	Rheumatism
Sleeplessness	Lassitude	Headache
Exhaustion	Neuritis	Hysteria
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and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

Supplied by Royal Commands to—

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"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.

[On this page every week we publish particulars of human derelicts whose cases, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

CCCXX.—BED-RIDDEN TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS.

The Forest Fach Choral Society recently gave a concert on behalf of a young woman who had been confined to her bed for nearly 27 years. The amount realised was inadequate for the purpose, and the Secretary asks that our readers will supplement it. Here are the circumstances of the sad case: A Miss James, when 12 years of age, contracted rheumatic fever, the effects of which left her quite helpless—indeed, she has been confined to her bed ever since, and every medical man who has seen her expresses the opinion that she will never have the use of her legs. Both her parents died about six years ago, since when she has maintained herself by crochet work and the help of her relations, who are employed in collieries. It required little imagination to realise the position of the poor woman. Those living in the immediate neighbourhood marvel at her quiet resignation, and are doing all they can to help her. The concert realised about £15, and it is desired to raise an additional sum sufficient to get the woman into better surroundings, and replenish her poor working stock.

CCCXXI.—HARD PRESSED.

In January, 1910, a married man, with one child, obtained a post with a Leeds firm as a clerk, at a nominal wage. Previous to this he had been out of work for sixteen months, and had been compelled to sell the best part of his home. After getting into harness he commenced to purchase a second lot of household goods, on the instalment plan. Within three years he had paid off the debt, but then fell ill and was confined to bed for some weeks. Upon his doctor's advice, he changed his employment to an outdoor job in the country, as he was developing consumption—a step which entailed a removal. He was faced with a difficulty, as rent was owing. With the aid of friends—almost as poor as himself—who acted as sureties, he obtained an advance from a moneylender. Then his real troubles commenced. More sickness dogged his footsteps, and he was unable to keep up the payments. Threatening letters and the fear of letting in his sureties hung like a nightmare over him. Distracted beyond measure, he borrowed again to pay off the old loan—and, of course, got deeper into the mire. Now he is almost despairing of ever again being able to wipe out his debts. He is gradually shaking off the white scourge, and his wife feels sure that if he could only get rid of his liabilities they would soon be happy again. The amount is but small—about £8—and the man asks us to lend it to him and allow him to repay it at 2s. a week. We think a better plan would be to give it to him. What do our readers think—will they help us to do so?

"CHARITY'S SWEET REWARD."

Our readers will remember that a few weeks ago we appealed to them on behalf of a little girl suffering from curvature of the spine. A necessary part of her cure was good nourishment and change of air—and this her father was not able to provide. He now writes:—

> My little dau hter asks me to thank you and your readers for giving me the means of keepin up the good the ospital has done. She has not gone to a convalescent home yet. We are waitin; for a vacancy. In the meantime her mother is busy making a complete outfit, and we have been able to get all she wants.

So a little ray of sunshine thus enters the child's life. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of these. . . ."

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have received the following, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CCXC.—F. R. H. S., 21s.
CCXCIX.—E. J. B. (Cape Town) 2s. 6d.; F. O., M. K. A., 1s.
CCC.—"Brixton," parcel.
CCCIX.—"Anonymous," 1s.
CCCXII.—"Anonymous," parcel.
CCCXIII.—M. C., 5s.; "I. O. U.", 10s.; A. W. S., 1s.; "Anonymous," parcel.
CCCXIV.—"Grateful," £1.; O. W. E., 6d.; H. J. P., 5s.; W. D., 2s. 6d.; E. M. H., 3d.; W. H. L., 2s. 6d.; E. A. C., 2s. 6d.; "Little Johnnie," 8s.; "Hengher," 1s. 4d.; W. S., 1s. 6d.; J. E. L., 5s.; "Edith S.," 1s.; Hon. Sec., B.R. Centre (Crosby) £1.
CCCXV.—"In Memory of Pauline," 1s.; O. W. E., 6d.; "Hengher," 1s. 4d.; "100 to 1," 7s.
CCCXVI.—O. W. E., 1s.; "Alnwick Strawberries," 6d.; E. S., 5s.; "Bulletite," 5s.; "Hengher," 1s. 4d.; E. J., 1s.; J. F., 10s.; "Sturton," 2s. 6d.; E. M. H., 2s.; C. H. S., 1s.; W. J. B., (Transvaal) £1.; "Football," 2s. 6d.; E. E., 2s. 6d.; J. E. L., 5s.; "Sunloch," 5s.; A. T., 2s.; J. H. S., 2s. 6d.; "Billow," 6d.; "Poor Widow," £2.
CCCXVII.—J. E. L., 5s.; "Widow's Mite," 1s.; "Anonymous," parcel; "Tom," 2s.; E. M. & S. W. M., 5s.; "Jutis," 2s. 6d.
CCCXVIII.—J. E. L., 5s.; E. E. R., 6d.; "Jutis," 2s. 6d.; "Soldier Winner," 1s.
CCCXIX.—"Tom," 5s. 6d.

Mr. Jas. Davidson, the winner of the First Prize in our 78th "Bullets" Competition, has sent us £5, which we have divided between "Human Documents" CCCXIV and CCCXVI.

Mr. A. Tibbs, the winner of the First Prize in Mr. Patrick O'Brien's Grand National Sweep, has sent us £5, which we have divided between "Human Documents" CCCXVII and CCCXVIII.

We have this week divided £10 from the John Bull Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund between "Human Document" CCCXVII, and the man referred to in our last issue under the heading of "Magistrates in a Fix."

We have also apportioned £10 from the John Bull Football Cup Sweepstake Charity Fund between "Human Documents" CCCXVIII and CCCXIX.

We have further allocated £10 from the John Bull Grand National Sweepstake Charity Fund, as follows:—£2 to the youth referred to in our last issue under the heading of "A Righted Wrong"; £5 to CCCX, and £3 to CCCXII.

THE TRUMP FUND.

We have this week received £3 from the Rev. Canon Scott Holland, Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford. It is strange that, although so excellent a lead has been set by Lord Roberts, Mr. Galsworthy and Canon Scott Holland—representative of the best and most distinguished elements in their respective professions—the general public have been slow in responding to the appeal we made on behalf of Mr. Trump. He is 57 years of age, of excellent character, and, although paralysed and suffering from Bright's disease, managed for some years to support himself by letting apartments. In November last, however, he was unable to pay the local rates. He might have been excused them by the Fulham authorities, but they insisted on their pound of flesh—with the result that the unfortunate man was thrown into prison. Unless our readers come to his rescue, by raising sufficient to start him in some small business, there is every prospect of his ending his days either in the workhouse or in the gaol, as the tax collector will soon be coming round again. Further subscriptions are, therefore, urgently needed.

Rev. Canon Scott Holland.. ..	£3	0	0
Victualling Office Staff of H.M.S. *Dido*	0	3	0

£50 Waiting for a "Mary Bull" Mauve Coupon. See page 29.

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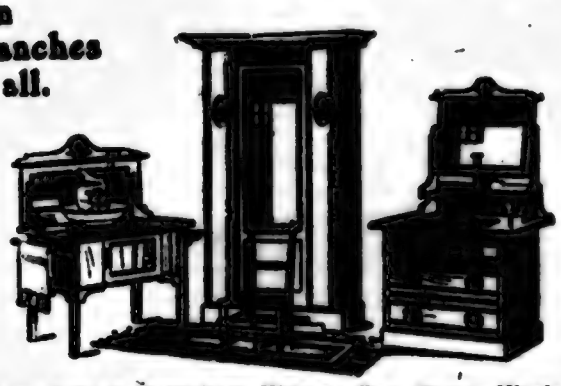

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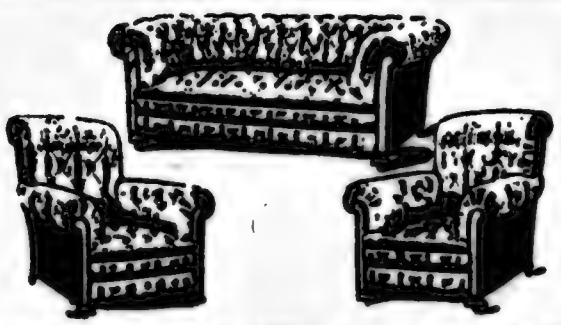

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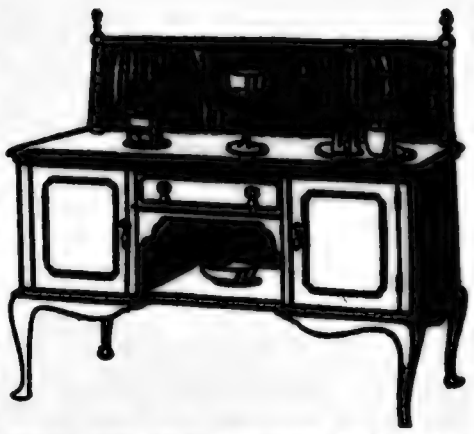

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CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

[This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.]

To the Right Hon. Lewis Harcourt, P.C., M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies.

DEAR "LULU,"—My word this time is one of congratulation. I am happy to note a marked change of tone in your parliamentary references to South African affairs. On behalf of his Majesty's Government, you recently accepted, with trifling emendation, a resolution which in measured terms condemned the recent excesses of the Boer junta at Pretoria. "The rights of British citizens," it declared, "are common to the whole Empire, and their inviolability should be assured in every self-governing Dominion." It matters not to discuss the bearing of your earlier orations upon the form and spirit of this vigorous pronouncement. Here, at least, is wholesome doctrine. Rub it in! JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. Sir Roland Vaughan Williams, P.C.

DEAR OLD JUDGE,—So you have retired at last—after upwards of a quarter of a century's splendid work in the administration of both law and justice, and with you goes the finest specimen of an English judge who has ever sat on the bench. Fearless as you were learned, and learned as you were just, you raised the judiciary of our country to a level worthy of its proudest traditions. Peace be with you in the eventide of your life. JOHN BULL.

To the Right Rev. the Bishop of Yukon.

DEAR BISHOP,—I gather that you once ate your boots, but that certain unregenerate persons have flatly declined to believe that you ever did anything of the kind. I hasten to say that had you assured me upon your right reverend and episcopal word that you had swallowed your hat and gaiters, as well, I could have done no other than accept your story in a spirit of humility and reverential awe. I think I am right in stating that you compassed the weird meal mid Arctic snows, far from the prying eye of sceptic man. Your boots were made of sealskin and walrus-hide, which you toasted and ate bit by bit. Frugally, and with becoming restraint, you consumed them to the last eyelet hole. Your story, my dear Bishop, is as toothsome a tit-bit as any you might have sighed for in those snowy wastes. Have you told it to Father Vaughan or the Bishop of London? If so, I shall never be surprised to learn that the reverend Father has swallowed his trousers or that the Bishop has made fritters of his cassock. You terrible boys! JOHN BULL.

To Horace Smith, Esq., Police Magistrate, Westminster.

SIR,—Your preposterous embargo has prevented a talented child actress from fulfilling her *rôle* at the Coronet Theatre, thereby marring an artistic production and giving umbrage to a large number of playgoers. You may think this a matter of small moment, but, unhappily, it is typical of that obstinacy which, in circumstances of wider import, has so often characterised your decisions. You must have known full well that there was no suggestion of hardship to the child, whose health and education have been objects of much studious care. In a word, there was no intelligent reason why she should not have been permitted to make her final curtsey to the audience at a trifle after ten. Can't you persuade yourself to retire? JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. W. Sykes, Vicar of Hillsboro.'

REV. FRIEND,—Accept my regrets that your soul should be vexed and your heart cast down because there has been a heinous exhibition of daffodils at Holly Court two Sundays in succession "with a collection for 'the Guild of Help.'" "If," you ask, "such displays as these be considered proper on the Lord's Day, how can the Christian Church with any consistency oppose Sunday bands, Sunday golf, Sunday tennis, or the opening of picture palaces?" The "League of Help" will probably tell you that they regard an exhibition of Sunday flowers as good for body and soul as an exhibition of Sunday parsons, and in that case I shall cordially agree with them. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. William Henry Reils, Farmer, Clavering.

DEAR WILLIAM HENRY,—From a speech you have made at Bishop's Stortford, as parliamentary candidate for East Herts, I have formed the opinion that if the voters would like an addition to the collection of Westminster curiosities on exhibition at St. Stephen's, they cannot do better than elect you. For drivelling foolery I imagine this speech of yours is a record in electioneering. Always had a thrilling interest in politics, you told the audience; reminiscenced that you'd been chucked off a pony five or six times when you were a little kid, and once arose with a broken nose; revealed that you'd been wiped on the floor at Radical meetings since then, chucked out of Conservative meetings, fined for assaulting the police; reminded 'em you started two years ago to create a huge agricultural party and are now on the job; alleged you had a conscientious conviction that "a lot more stock could be fed and would be fed if we had some kind of legislation to enable us to grow it"; undertook to produce a thousand 20-stone fat hogs, a hundred fat bullocks, and two hundred fat sheep every year providing the legislation of the country allowed you to do it; believed in fair do's all round; burned the Insurance Act in Finsbury Circus; proceeded afterwards to Throgmorton Street to make a speech to the boys; stood there alone and was pulled down by a policeman, and then went into Lyons' refreshment rooms for a drink; asserted your belief in the Bishops having more power, and if they don't get it you're in favour of Disestablishment and Disendowment; announced that you once saved a horse from the knackers for six guineas and had since used him for hunting; swanked that if the constituency liked your policy you wanted 'em to vote for you, and if they didn't you didn't want their blooming vote and wouldn't have it—finally perorating, amid applause, that when you entered the portals of the House of Commons you would be shoved in by the people because you had the love of the people. My advice to you is to keep outside, to attend to the hogricultural business, while they shove somebody else inside with a little less timber under his hat. Kindly accept this in the spirit in which it is meant.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. R. F. Horton, D.D., Lyndhurst Road Chapel, Hampstead.

DEAR PURITAN,—What a nasty person you must be! Grieved by the fact that some thousands of rational people prefer to stroll on the Heath on Sundays rather than sit in stuffy churches and listen to snuffy sermons, you have indulged in a perfect orgy of spleen. With an impertinence all your own, and with an entire want of discrimination, you have stigmatised these people as "loose and irresponsible characters, some of the worst and most dangerous to the morality of the community." To your mind, it is apparently unthinkable that "young and inexperienced people," of differing sex, can disport themselves together without risk of "grave disaster." You therefore propose to constitute a sort of Standing Committee of Paul Prys, who shall regularly patrol the Heath in quest of evil. I presume they will be armed with binoculars of exceptional power, and I have no doubt they will discover mountains of iniquity, for jaundiced eyes breed visions suited to their taste. Do you propose to captain the muck-foragers?

JOHN BULL.

To J. Fielding, Esq., Sub-Postmaster, Bromley Cross, Bolton.

SIR,—A word of congratulation upon the sound sense of your Presidential Message to the National Federation of Sub-Postmasters, whose delegates recently met in conference at Nottingham. I have long felt, and more than once expressed, my deep sense of the disabilities suffered by officers of your class, and I rejoice to know that you are confronting them with sturdy resolve, tempered with sound discretion. You are quite rightly convinced that only "with the support of the public" can you "advantageously adopt militant action," and your first efforts are to be bent to enlisting the sympathy of those whom it is your first duty to serve. This sane course implies no compromise of your position, and in no way indicates, as you have said, that you are prepared to take injustice "lying down." I am convinced that your appeal to the sympathy of the public will not fail of its response. More power to your cause! JOHN BULL.

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We're tricky, and we're touching tons of tin!—
Some are smart and some are funny,
But our victims always "cuss"
When they find how neatly they've been taken in!
We're a pretty group!
A tricky troup,
And never hesitate to dupe
The simple, if there's any cash to win!

SOLO "*Lucky Stones*" (Captain Walter Rand):
I am the captain of the band,
Though some the fact dispute;
My name is Captain Walter Rand—
The "Captain" touch is 'cute!
I am a Yankee, and I raise
The wind by fleecing British jays—
That is, by selling bits of glass
To many a stupid British ass:
I call them "Lucky Stones"—
I call them "Lucky Stones," you see,
Because they bring good luck—*to me!*

I send by post my "Wondrous Talo"
Concerning far Ceylon,
And tons of letters, which prevail
The credulous upon.
But, like the seed described of old,
Some falls on barren ground—
I don't rake in a lot of gold
Where *John Bullites* abound:
Still, they *are* "Lucky Stones"—
I call them "Lucky Stones," you see,
Because they bring good luck—*to me!*

CHORUS (*tune* "Captain Shaw"):
Oh, Captain Rand,
Keenest of ramps for plunder!
Can "Lucky Stones"
Mend broken bones
Or better bad luck, we wonder?

SOLO "*Captains All*" (Hugh McKean):
Let Captain Rand a captain be,
He cannot be compared with me,—
He only deals in "bobs," you see,
But I am out for "quids"!
My Mail Order Institute,
Whose *bona fides* some dispute,
Brings in a steady stream of loot
From mugs with minds like kids.

Now, if you think I'm Hugh McKean
You must be Mr. Verdant Green—
I am a man who's rarely seen,
I am elusive, rather!
Some think my name's Clay Burton Vance—
Well, what if they are right, perchance?
The fortunes I can still advance
Of Elmer Sidney Prather!

CHORUS:
Whether you're Prather, or Hugh McKean,
You've got the good sense to remain unseen;
And whether the "Captain" a captain is,
What matters, so long as he does good biz?
They are out for making money,
And the same say all of us!
They are tricky, and they're touching tons of tin!—
Both are Yankees—which is funny;
And their victims always cuss
When they find how nicely they've been taken in!
We're a tricky troup,
A pretty group!
And don't care who or what we dupe
So long as there is easy cash to win!

CURTAIN.

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I AM A WOMAN who belongs to a prematurely grey-haired family. My father was grey before he was 30, and two of my brothers as well as my sister became grey early in life. Before the age of 25 I developed grey hairs, which became quite embarrassing to me—socially and also in business. **I LOST THREE GOOD POSITIONS** for no other reasons than my fading hair. The greyness increased with alarming rapidity, and at 28 **I LOOKED LIKE A WOMAN OF 45.** One day I was seriously thinking of buying one of the many Grey Hair Restorers that are extensively advertised, when I casually mentioned the subject to an acquaintance—a scientific man, and as I afterwards learnt a great student of the Chemistry of the Hair. He strongly advised me to have nothing whatever to do with these concoctions. He pointed out that **SUCH PREPARATIONS EVENTUALLY RUINED THE HAIR,** and in the meantime — rarely deceived, even the casual observer. He suggested that I try a formula that he had perfected after a considerable time which by a certain chemical action on the pigmentary colouring cells restored the hair to its natural colour. In reply to my enquiries he assured me that the formula was not only absolutely harmless, but would develop **A STRONG AND BEAUTIFUL GROWTH OF HAIR.** My friend wrote out his prescription, which I had made up, and after following the instructions for a few days I was surprised and delighted to find my hair becoming richer and darker in tone. The re-colouring process continued until after some few weeks my hair actually once again possessed the natural shade of my girlish days. Since then **I HAVE BEEN INUNDATED WITH ENQUIRIES** from friends and also persons unknown to me, who came to hear of this wonderful preparation. Having become convinced that I have found **A REMEDY OF EXTRAORDINARY MERIT,** and which is quite harmless, I have resolved to offer it for sale, as I am certain from my own experience that it will prove an inestimable boon to any man or woman who finds Grey Hair to be the same serious handicap it was to me. It is a Guaranteed Genuine Preparation and I **OFFER A REWARD OF £100** if it will not Re-colour Grey Hair in Original Natural Shade.

I have put on one side 10,000 Special TRIAL BOTTLES which I shall distribute, free of charge, to the readers of this paper while the supply lasts.

FREE

Simply write your name and address plainly, and enclose Two stamps for postage, etc., and I will send you the TRIAL BOTTLE in a plain sealed cover.—Address: Mrs. MARY K. CHAPMAN (Suite 360), 8, Mortimer Street, Regent Street, London, W.

About "Selfridge" Bicycles

THE price of a Bicycle depends not only upon the quality of the materials used, but also upon the *numbers* sold. We sell thousands of Selfridge MODEL "A" BICYCLES every year, thus being in a position to offer a really high-grade machine at a much lower figure than would be possible if we sold only a few.

The MODEL "A" has a best quality steel frame, heavily-plated rims, with enamelled and lined centres; Avon Tyres guaranteed for 12 months, roller lever brakes, Perry chain and free-wheel, and a Lycett saddle with nickel-plated springs.

GENTLEMEN'S MODEL £3 10 0
or 2 monthly payments of 5/10.

LADY'S MODEL £3 14 6
or 12 monthly payments of 6/3.

Selfridge & Co., Ltd., Oxford St., W.

Penny Wise—Pound Foolish

applies forcibly to those who allow prices only to determine their choice of a Dry Cleaner or Dyer. Our prices are within the reach of all, and are based on the service we render to our Clients. When they are higher than those quoted by others, the difference is due entirely to the superiority of the Johnson Patent Processes. Don't risk the spoiling of a valuable suit or overcoat for the sake of a few pence.

SEND it to JOHNSONS'

to be treated by their Patent Process, because:

1. They extract all the dust and dirt with which the fabric is impregnated. Each article is passed through the spirit-cleansing process as often as its particular condition requires, and not merely surface-cleaned.
2. Every spot and stain is eradicated, shininess is removed, and the fabric is restored to its original appearance and looks "Just like New."
3. Suits for dyeing are first dry-cleaned, and the vest and sleeve linings are removed, cleaned, and replaced so as to avoid any "dyed" appearance.
4. The garments are returned beautifully finished and tailor pressed.

Suits cleaned ... ... 4/6 Dyed. 7/-
Raincoats cleaned. 3/6 Cleaned and Proofed. 5/-

Ladies' Blouses, Dresses, Gloves, also treated with equal care and effectiveness. Send post card for illustrated catalogue F and list of 100 Branches.

JOHNSON BROS., Bootle Dye Works, LIVERPOOL

TEMPERANCE CRANK (*after lengthy argument*): "Now, perhaps, you will coincide with me."
BILL: "Well, thank'y, Guv'nor, I don't mind if I do. Mine's a 'arf of bitter."

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

THE BISHOP'S MOVE.

ARTISAN (*throwing down newspaper with disgust*): I never did think much o' these 'ere bishops, but I never thought they wos so barmy as this 'ere Bishop o' London.

NONCONFORMIST MINISTER (*lowering his "Daily News" and looking across with eager interest*): Ah, if you knew as much about bishops as I do, my friend! Imbued with sacerdotal pride, they delight to flirt with Rome——

ARTISAN: That don't worry me. It is w'en they start interferin' with the reasonable recreation of the workin' man, like wot the Bishop o' London is a doin' of now. Wants me to walk six mile afore I kin git a drink Sundays! Huh!

N.-C. MINISTER (*slightly embarrassed*): I—er—thought perhaps you were referring to some scandalous ritualistic practices, which so many bishops wink at.

ARTISAN: Not me. I don't worry about their church business. I don't go to church meself. Give it up years ago, w'en I started to do a bit o' thinkin' for meself. I don't run the Church down, minjer. Let them go to it wot believes in it, I say. But w'en bishops an' parsons start interferin' wi' the 'ard-won rights o' the workin' clawsses, I begins to jib. Wot's it to do wi' the Bishop o' London 'ow far I walks for a drop o' beer on Sundays? 'E don't pay for it.

N.-C. MINISTER: You place me in rather an awkward position. You see——

ARTISAN: Don't you worry, mister. I see 'ow it is. You're a 'ot teetotaler, but you don't care to support the Bishop's idea because 'e's a Churchman an' you're a Nonconformist. In other words, your teetotal principles is at war w' your religious prejudice. Ain't that it?

N.-C. MINISTER (*laughing*): You are at no loss for language, friend. Suppose I were to admit that there is a measure of truth in what you say? I confess I *am* a total abstainer——

ARTISAN: No need to do that, mister. Your face speaks for itself, as you might say. I ain't got nothing against that. You've got jest as much right to be a T. T. as I 'ave to 'ave my glawss o' beer. But neether you or the Bishop o' London 'as a right to stop me 'avin' my drop o' drink, jest because neether of you believes in it.

N.-C. MINISTER: Religious teachers have a duty——

ARTISAN: Jest a minute, mister. This ain't a question o' religion, it's a question o' justice. Now, jest look at it from my point o' view for a minute. 'Ere am I, workin 'ard all the week at my job. On Sat'dy arfternoon I does a bit o' gard'nin', but on Sund'y arfter dinner I always take the missus an' the kid for a walk. W'en we've got three mile out, the missus is usually ready for a glawss o' stout and a narrowroot biscuit, or somethink like that, an' the kid wants a bottle o' ginger-beer an' a 'eart cake. An', ter tell you the truth, I'm erbout ready for a 'alf-pint by that time.

N.-C. MINISTER: Ah, my friend, that's just it. Why so much alcohol?

ARTISAN: Much? A glawss o' stout for the missus, an' 'alf-a-pint for me! It suits 'er an' it suits me; and, I can tell you, mister, we ain't never 'ad too much ever since we was married. Nor before neether, as far as the missus goes, I'll swear. Now, w'y to goodness shouldn't we 'ave a little refresher like that we'n we've walked three mile, an' then have to walk 'ome again? But Mister Bloomin' Bishop says I've got to walk *six* mile afore I can 'ave a drink! Well, I tell you, if it comes into law, that ll put a stopper on our Sund'y arfternoon walk. *I* could do the twelve mile all right, but the missus an' the kid couldn't: an' I can't afford to take 'em out six or seven miles by train every Sund'y. No, I shall stop at 'ome. P'raps I shall git a crate o' beer in on Sat'd'y night an' 'ave a pal or two in on Sund'y to 'elp me drink it. It won't do me no good, I know, an' the missus an' the kid 'll miss the walk. But it won't be my fault. They'll 'ave to blame the Bishop!

£1,775 for "Bullets." See Our Special Holiday Offer on page 34.

LEFT HOSPITAL A CRIPPLE

Helplessly paralysed for three years, and believed incurable. Another Miracle-cure by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Here is a story which shows again the extraordinary power of Dr. Cassell's Tablets to restore activity to the nerves and nerve-centres of the human body. It is a story of actual fact; it can easily be verified, and notwithstanding the wonder of the cure, investigation will prove it true beyond any shadow of doubt.

Mrs. Cooper, of Fenn Lanes, Fenny Drayton, near Nuneaton, says:—"I shall never cease to praise Dr. Cassell's Tablets for the wonderful cure they have effected in my little girl, Hilda. She was completely paralysed for no less than three years, and now, after a course of these Tablets, she can go about by herself. The cause of the trouble was her being knocked down by a bicycle when she was three years old. She was very much bruised, and lay unconscious for some hours; but she seemed to get over it quite well, and we never suspected any trouble. Some years later, however, she complained of pains and aching over her body, and just four years ago she began to lose the power of her limbs, and to get more and more helpless, till she was completely paralysed. We had the best advice we could find, but nothing came of it. The case was considered incurable. After that we took Hilda to hospital, where a slight operation was performed, and we learned that a piece of bone in her hip had been gradually wasting away all these years. She left the hospital a helpless cripple, unable to move hand or foot, and it was thought she could not live many months.

"However, finding that everything else had failed, I thought I would just try what Dr. Cassell's Tablets would do. The result amazed me. The first sign of benefit was that Hilda improved in general health. She began to eat better, then slowly but surely power returned to her limbs, and she was able to get up for a little. It is only six months since I first got the Tablets, and now she is cured. She is in the best of health, a big girl for her age (13)."

Hilda Cooper, Nuneaton

D'Cassell's Tablets

are a genuine and tested remedy for all forms of nerve or bodily weakness in old or young. They are composed of harmless ingredients which have an invigorating effect on all the nerve centres. They are the surest remedy for

Nervous Breakdown	Neurasthenia	Kidney Disease	Malnutrition
Nerve Paralysis	Nervous Debility	Indigestion	Wasting Disease
Spinal Paralysis	Blood-poisons	Stomach Disorders	Palpitation
Infantile Paralysis	Anæmia		Vital Exhaustion

and are specially valuable for nursing Mothers, and the Critical Periods of Life.

All chemists the world over sell Dr. Cassell's Tablets at 10½d., 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d.—the 2s. 9d. size being the most economical

Medical Advice Free on request from Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd., Chester Road, Manchester.

SEND FOR A FREE BOX.

Send your name and address and two penny stamps for postage, etc., to Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd., (Box A24), Chester Road, Manchester, and you will receive a trial box free.

FINDON'S WEEKLY

Competitors' Journal

OFFERS A PRIZE OF

£5 a WEEK

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"SIMPLETS."

ON SALE EVERYWHERE. ONE PENNY.

"MARVELLOUS REMEDY FOR NERVE PAINS"

TRIED WITH WONDERFUL EFFECT.

That is the belief of Mr. Roy H. Davis, 29, Dornton Road, Balham, S.W. He writes:—"I have been suffering from severe neuralgia for several weeks and tried almost every known remedy without relief. I then took one tablet of Kephaldol, and was astonished to find the pain had quite gone in almost half an hour. I have taken four tablets in all, and after the lapse of ten days have had no return of the trouble. One of my friends has tried it with wonderful effect, and I consider it a most marvellous remedy for all nerve pains."

Practically every tube of Dr. Stohr's Kephaldol sold by chemists has given similar effect. No wonder it is so popular with those who have tried it.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production **within seven days of publication** (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of ONE GUINEA in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a report of all the work done.

Mr. R. EWING, 2, Main Street, Kingseat, Fife. April 4th. No. 698,691.

Mrs. M. JOHNSON, Thistledown, Ava St., Kirkcaldy. April 4th. No. 526,207.

Mr. CHAS. DORSET, 19, Dingwall Road, near East Croydon. April 4th. No. 617,683.

Mr. J. JORDAN, 44, Wellington Street, Merthyr. April 4th. No. 656,677.

Mr. Wm. HOSSICK, 1, Cunningham St., Dundee. April 4th. No. 550,691.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of April 25th:—

004312	169424	347847	571260	761099
024318	172663	363123	585907	819336
031746	183903	383708	608434	832754
044913	188374	422786	639162	850757
059578	229748	439631	659887	891431
078263	237005	465138	674582	900461
095338	256384	486789	688305	965443
120069	314629	506686	703258	A000072
143221	327541	527725	730097	A001453
153669	334254	533173	749691	A048137

The A prefixed to a drawn number indicates it is plus a million.

The Fifty Numbers in respect of this week will be announced in our next issue (published on May 6th).

IN THE HANDS OF THE CHIROPODIST.

STRAIGHT TALKS BY OUR TAME CORN-CUTTER.

MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL.

Good afternoon, sir . . . Suffering from foot trouble? . . . Afraid it's gout? . . . Surely not—at your age! . . . But let me have a look . . . Ah; inflamed toe joints . . . Had your corns pretty badly trodden on, I should say, sir . . . I thought as much . . . How did it happen? . . . Got under the clumsy feet of some cavalry officers? . . . Dear me! And they don't tread lightly, do they, sir? . . . Did you bring it on yourself? . . . Excuse my asking; but judging from the look of your shoes you haven't been walking altogether straight lately . . . You will notice there is a slight twist in the sole . . . No, sir; I should hardly think your being at sea so much lately would cause it . . . True, sailors usually walk with a bit of a swing, or lurch, but they invariably keep a straight course, all the same . . . It's more likely to have been caused by your being up in the air too much . . . But all this is something like the Third Battle Squadron—neither here nor there, so to say. The question is, how to effect a cure. I'm afraid I can't do much until you've thoroughly poulticed your toes and *got all the matter out*. You'll find it a rather painful process, but it is the only thing to do. And I should advise you, when you are about again as usual, to avoid getting under the feet of cavalry officers. Another turn like this, and you might be crippled for life. As it is, I'm afraid you'll walk with a slight limp for some time to come . . . .

Object to the hidden meanings suggested by my observations? . . . Then your conscience is growing as sensitive as your corns, sir . . . I can't help that, sir . . . You come to me for advice and treatment, and you must put up with what you get. Astonishing what a lot of you Cabinet gentlemen seem to be uneasy about the feet just now, sir . . . Result of constantly taking the wrong steps, I fancy . . . The secret of easy feet is straightforward walking, sir—that, and wearing shoes that fit you. Now, these of yours fit you fairly well—a good deal better than those worn by the majority of your colleagues . . . You've the less excuse for taking the wrong turning. And don't do it, sir—accept a word of friendly advice. When you've recovered from your present discomfort, keep your feet clear of the snares and pitfalls that beset Party politicians. That's the only way to serve your country and win credit for yourself. And, above all, remember that the Fleet is not the instrument of a Party, but the chief defensive arm of the Empire.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR

GEMS FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

"I am very sorgy if i have originate aney trouble i ham sorey i, pray for merce."

"Excuse writing you, but will you tell me, if its right, that your paper offered a certain amount, for children born on the 1st of April, if so, my wife was confined on the 1st of April. Hoping you will excuse me writing, if its not right."

"Being informed that you conduct through your paper, JOHN BULL correspondence classes. If this is so, and if you require an Instructor upon the subject of "Forestry" I offer you my services as a teacher of that subject."

"I ham just wrighting these few lines to you to ask you to put it in your book which I have heard many people say that a man or a woman can fly which I say my self that it is impossiable for them to do so with out they were to grow a pair of humnan wings to fly with."

"I shall esteem it a very great favour if you will return me information as to bettering my position. I am a Journeyman Hatter by trade and it is very bad for us at present and has been for some time past, and I should very much like to obtain a post under Government if at all possible, but I would like to have little or no extreem studying to do so if I could do without an examination it would suit me very much. I am about 30 years of age standing about 5 feet 9 inches in height and proportionately well built. I should like something with a very good salary attached to it."

A record in tailoring value.

Rego Clothes combine the smartness and quality of West End Tailoring with the economy of City prices. This statement is made in all sincerity, and we invite JOHN BULL readers to test it. The organization and resources of The Rego Clothiers, Ltd., has cut down the cost of production, so that you now buy a first-class made-to-measure suit actually **less** than you would pay for a ready-made.

Here is an example, a latest style Lounge Suit (as illustrated)—

Fine Quality Perfect Fit **30/-**

Made to Measure NO EXTRAS.

and fully guaranteed. **Money back** if you are not completely satisfied. Test Rego Clothes on that understanding—just as over 250,000 business men have done—and you will certainly become a **regular** Rego customer.

FREE PATTERNS. Send postcard (or call at any of our 31 branches) for a selection of the very latest patterns—greys, browns, and navy serges, etc.—with simplified self-measure form (ensuring a perfect fit no matter where you live) and a free copy of the great Popular tailoring magazine, **Fashions for Men** (photographically illustrated).

THE Rego Clothiers LIMITED

(Dept. M.), 122, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

E.C.
122, Cheapside.
191, Aldersgate Street.

W.C.
220, High Holborn.

N.
263, Pentonville Road, King's Cross.
40, Caledonian Road, King's Cross.
229, Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park.
491, Holloway Road, Highgate.
4, High Street, Islington.

N.W.
135, High Street, Camden Town.
31, High Street, Harlesden.

W.
4, High Street, Kingsland.

S.E.
7, Powis Street, Woolwich.
3, The Broadway, Deptford.
120, Rye Lane, Peckham.
361-365, Walworth Road.
105, High Street, Chatham.

S.W.
31, High Street, Putney.
12, The Broadway, Waltham Green.
27, St. John's Road, Clapham Junction.
193, High Road, Balham.
28, Clarence Street, Kingston.
49, George Street, Richmond.
77-79, North End, Croydon.
18, Atlantic Road, Brixton.

E.
19-20, Aldgate.
134-136, High Street, Shoreditch.
58, The Broadway, Ilford.

W.
222, Edgware Road.
105, King Street, Hammersmith.
246, High Road, Chiswick.
22, Uxbridge Road, Shepherd's Bush.

This Letter is for You

just as much as if it bore your name on the envelope. It is a grateful tribute from the widow of the late Frank Lawton, the well-known actor, and bears witness to the unfailing generosity of the "Midland" Furnishing Company to their clients.

The original may be seen at their Furniture Salons in Southampton Row.

29, Stonor Road,
West Kensington,
April 21st, 1914.

The Midland Furnishing Co., Ltd.,
15/23, Southampton Row,
Holborn, W.C.

Dear Sirs,

I take this opportunity of thanking you for all your past kindness to my husband, the late Mr. Frank Lawton, and myself.

I have this day received the return of the agreement that we had with you, upon which there was an unpaid balance of £28 19s. 8d., and which you have so kindly cancelled; and I appreciate this all the more having regard to the fact that at the time my late husband entered into the agreement your free life policy was not in vogue.

I am conscious of the generous treatment I have at all times received at your hands and wish you all the success you deserve.

Believe me,
Yours very truly,
Mrs. FRANK LAWTON.

By furnishing at the "Midland" on their Ideal Terms *you*, too, can obtain the same free life insurance policy as the late Mr. Frank Lawton—a policy whereby all furniture becomes the absolute property of the wife in the event of the death of the purchaser. What is more, all furniture thus purchased is also insured against fire, free—no charge being made for credit.

And remember at the "Midland" Salons you will have the choice of £100,000 worth of furniture—and the finest value in all London.

Write for the Free Book of Furniture.

Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.,
15-23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

Governing Director: **Mr. George Michael,** *who has been associated with the firm for 40 years.*

Bull's Eyes.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION :—

Isn't the Mexican situation Vera Cruz-ial?
Is Sir A thur Pa ;et also a "Scely" person?
Will the new Milk Bill be properly made out?
Hasn't Winston been going a little too fast lately?
Isn't there a motto, "When banks fall out——"?
Have you taken that "straight tip" on page 34?
Is the retort "You're another" a parliamentary expression?
Won't General Huerta get rather more than "gun for gun"?
Doesn't Lord Justice Pickford deserve his place in the "van"?
Is "Coerce-shun" the Government attitude towards Ulster now?

How many men "rose" to the occasion on St. George's Day?

Does Lord Alfred Douglas hold that "Distance lends enchantment"?

Is it true that George B—— Shaw doesn't care a cuss for the Censor?

Aren't English boxers killing the "goose" who provides the golden "eggs"?

* * *

It is generally the woman with the worst past who gets the best present.

* * *

"Prayer for Parliament," reads a headline. Surely it is past praying for.

* * *

Orloff won a race at Alexandra Park recently. Apparently the other horses were.

* * *

A Wealdstone carpenter has become a local magistrate. It is only a change of benches.

* * *

"Duke as Auctioneer," we read. Easy to be on nodding terms with the aristocracy nowadays.

* * *

A new revue—if there is such a thing—is called "Hurry Up." There ought to be plenty o. "go" in it.

* * *

The short, slit skirt is having a marked effect on the manners of the day; ladies are allowed to go first.

* * *

During 1913 there was an increase of 5,927 in the cases of drunkenness in Scotland. A sober fact.

* * *

"Life is like a journey in an express train," says a writer. Yes, we are all in a hurry to "get there."

* * *

"Should Girls be Caned?" a contemporary asks. Well, it is possible to make them smart that way.

* * *

A strike of cricket ball make s is threatened. We shall have our players wearing, instead of wielding, the willow.

* * *

"The Truth About Ulster," has just been published. It was not announced under the heading, "New Fiction."

* * *

A man with a mania for stealing clocks has been sentenced to eight months. He won't be so fond of "time" in future.

* * *

A Los Angelos woman of eighty-one has been charged with exceeding the speed limit. Well, she has no time to waste at her age.

* * *

Two ladies have been appointed "sidesmen" at a Darlington church. Well, the dear things are good at putting others in their places.

* * *

It is stated that there are parts of India where there are only two doctors for every half million of people. Those are the places to live in.

* * *

"Unionist" asks: "At the present moment of crisis where is the Emergency Man?" What the Government wants is the Emergency Exit.

* * *

After an explosion at a riverside distillery, thousands of fish were captured in an intoxicated condition. A little soon makes these water drinkers drunk.

* * *

The snail is to be adopted this year in Paris as a talisman of luck. We don't like it. Remove the "s" and you get a nail; then ail, and il, and, finally, "l." Take it backwards and you are thrown to the lians.

* * *

Mary has a little dress.
Cut at the neck and side,
And tho' she's modest, I confess;
She "bares" herself with pride.

Printer's Pie.

(THE WORK OF THE "DEVIL.")

"DAILY MAIL" advertisement—

"Hove. Lady, HUSBAND abroad, wishes ANOTHER, not elderly, as paying guest."

"NEWARK ADVERTISER":—

"At eighty-three she had a SERIOUS ILLNESS, and as a THANK-OFFERING she erected near Maidstone a home for training servants."

"STALYBRIDGE AND ASTON REPORTER":—

"Fire at Stalybridge: Just before twelve o'clock FLOWERS were seen issuing from a doorway."

"EVENING NEWS AND SOUTHERN DAILY MAIL":—

"A KILL is an operation performed upon another requiring, under all circumstances, the RECIPIENT'S SANCTION."

"EVENING DISPATCH" (Edinburgh) advertisement:—

LIVESTOCK. BARROWS and WHEELS for grocers, painters, masons, etc.; all kinds. Alex. M. Hunter, Abbeyhill Lorry Works."

"YORKSHIRE HERALD":—

"Thomas Raine, butcher, York, was summoned for riding on the HIGHWAY. The Bench inflicted a fine of 2s. 6d. and costs."

"STAR":—

"Their Majesties, who drove in an open carriage, left Buckingham Palace at 8.32, and were cheered by LARGE CROWS all along Buckingham Palace Road and Victoria Street."

"EVENING STANDARD AND ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE":—

"There seem possibilities about his (Lovewood) making a better FOUR-YEAR old than he was LAST SEASON."

"SUNDAY CHRONICLE":—

"Farley followed to the window, but could not see in, because there were two WOODEN panes of GLASS at the bottom and a newspaper blind at the top."

"BURTON DAILY MAIL":—

"Mr. Hamel's aeroplane will arrive to-morrow, and will be open to inspection on Friday, and will FLY AROUND THE TOWN ON SIXPENCE."

"SATURDAY POST" heading:—

"'I have shot myself,'" says Charles John Leigh AFTER taking his life with gun."

"DAILY EXPRESS" golf report:—

"Swansea and Llanelly played a Southern match at Llanelly yesterday, when the HOME SIDE WON by 1 to 0. Llanelly had most of the play in the initial half, but SWANSEA SCORED through Gilbey. In the second half Swansea were on the defensive most of the time, but LLANELLY FAILED TO SCORE."

"WALLINGTON AND CARSHALTON WEEKLY RECORD":—

"On Saturday, a VAN belonging to Hall & Co., tried looping the loop in Great Woodcote Drive. Getting its FRONT LEGS in a tangle the van turned on its side."

"DAILY RECORD AND MAIL" (Glasgow):—

"About four o'clock yesterday morning, whilst a goods train was crossing the points at East Fortune Station, TWO WOMEN and an engine tender became DERAILED and blocked both lines on the East Coast route."

"NORTHERN DAILY TELEGRAPH" heading:—

"A WORLD'S RECORD. Great March by London Territorials 52½ MILES in LESS THAN 41½ HOURS."

"MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONCLE":—

"The door slowly opened to the extent of TWO INCHES. The patriarchal head of the hermit, whose name is Mr. W. H. Nunn, appeared IN THE GAP."

Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published in this column. Should more than one competitor call attention to the same blunder, the amount will be forwarded to the sender of the first letter opened. In the case of newspaper cuttings sufficient must be forwarded to identify the name of the journal and date of issue. Envelopes to be marked "Printer's Pie" in the left-hand top corner.

Huge Cash Prize for placing 1, 2 and 3. See page 36.

MORE SWEEPSTAKE WINDFALLS.

YOUNG ENGINEER AND FOOTMAN WIN £9,000 IN THE JOHN BULL FOOTBALL CUP SWEEPSTAKE.

MR. F. R. MATTHEWS,
Winner of the £7,000 Prize.

On Saturday last was played the great Final Match for the Football Association Cup, in the presence of the King and a huge concourse of people, but doubtless everyone was too intent upon the contest to notice two pale and anxious faces—following with keen interest every incident of the match. They were the faces of the two lucky individuals who had drawn Liverpool and Burnley Clubs in the John Bull Football Cup Sweepstake, the holder of the Burnley ticket being Mr. F. R. Matthews, of 51, Key Hill, Hockley, Birmingham, whilst the Liverpool ticket was held by Mr. J. Winnall, a young footman, employed at Brailsford Hall, Brailsford, Derby. The explanation of the eagerness with which every feature of the game was followed by these two onlookers is to be found in the fact that they were entitled to the sum of £7,000 or £2,000, according to the result of the match, those being the first and second prizes respectively in the John Bull Football Cup Sweepstake promoted by Messrs. Smallman and Terry, of Geneva, Switzerland. During the first half of the match the issue hung in the balance, and we can well understand that had the two ticket-holders met, they would gladly have pooled the £9,000 prize-money, and agreed to accept £4,500 each, and thus be placed out of suspense. As it was, however, there was nothing to be done but to watch the remainder of the struggle—with the result that in the end, as all the world now knows, Burnley won the Cup, and Mr. Matthews (whose portrait we give above) became the lucky winner of the £7,000 prize. We also give the portrait of Mr. Winnall, the winner of the second prize, and are sure that all our sporting readers will heartily congratulate these young fellows on their good fortune, and will join with us in expressing the hope that the money will be utilised for their future benefit. By the time these lines are read, the happy couple will have received their cheques. In the meantime, the following biographical details respecting them will be of interest:—

Mr. Matthews's father at the time of his death, fifteen years ago, held the position of works manager at a large brass foundry in Wolverhampton, where the fortunate drawer of Burnley first saw the light on Christmas Day, 1888. In due course he was apprenticed to the well-known firm of Tangye's, at their Smethwick works, and since completing his term has been in the employ of another famous firm, the Wolseley Motor Car Company, of Adderley. In his own words, "I seem to have had my full share of luck in small sweepstakes, but I never thought I should have the luck to have drawn so great a chance." As to the future he is undecided, but we feel certain that the great prize cannot but be put to good use by so deserving a young fellow.

Mr. Winnall, on the other hand, is a footman. He is twenty-two years of age, and his parents reside in Worcester. His life hitherto has apparently been a rather uneventful one, for, as he puts it, after giving us these bare facts, "I don't know of anything else I can say, except that this is the first stroke of luck I have ever had." "And a very good one, too!" we are sure our readers will exclaim.

Apart, however, from the good fortune of these two individuals, there are several others who have cause to congratulate themselves upon having been subscribers to the John Bull Football Cup Sweep. Here, for instance, are lists of the smaller cash prizes already paid to the "runners-up" and others who drew the various Clubs set opposite their names—independently, of course, of the large number of Cash Consolation Prizes.

The figures printed at the top of the lists indicate the amount paid to each of the persons mentioned:—

£500 PRIZES.

DAVID BROWN, Barne, Bere Alston, Devon (*Sheffield U.*).
SGT. MUIR, Cavalry Depot, Dunbar, N.B. (*Aston Villa*).

£200 PRIZES.

ALBERT MORTON, 134, Queen's Rd., Sheffield (*Queen's P.R.*)
W. F. BURROWS, 40, Rossetti Garden Mansions, Chelsea, S.W. (*Sunderland*).
W. ROBINSON, 64, Chilton Road, Richmond, Surrey (*Manchester City*).
EVAN ARNOLD, Eaglebush Valley, Melin, Neath (*Sheffield Wednesday*).

£100 PRIZES.

MRS. WEBSTER, Goss View, Oakbank Road, Perth, N.B. (*Blackburn Rovers*).
JAS. T. SUNDERLAND, Clifford House, Nelson, Lancs. (*West Ham United*).
W. E. REEVES, 4, Canterbury Parade, Westgate-on-Sea (*Millwall*).
ALEX. MULLAN, 20, Arthur Street, Greenock, N.B. (*Preston North End*).
TOM BARRON, 63, Bridwater Street, Hindley, near Wigan (*West Bromwich Albion*).
A. BROMLEY, 12, Loughboro' Road, Brixton, S.W. (*Brighton and Hove*).
MRS. E. RICHARDS, 6, William's Place, off James Street, Swansea (*Bolton Wanderers*).
M. KIDD, 103, Canon Cockin Street, Sunderland (*Birmingham*).

No wonder the John Bull Derby Sweep—with its guaranteed prizes of £50,000, and under the management of the same firm—is being so universally supported!

MR. J. WINNALL,
Winner of the £2,000 Prize.

RESULT OF OUR SPORTING COMPETITION.

OUR £500 WON IN FIRST RACING CONTEST.

Who said it could not be done? Despite the fact that two "outsiders" were second and third in the City and Suburban, eight competitors succeeded in sending in absolutely correct coupons. It they can do so, why not you? The eight winners divide the £500, and so each receives £62 10s. 0d. Not bad odds to a penny! Their names and addresses are:

W. Baxter, 9, Brandon Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
F. G. Cooper, 22, Silver Street, Blackley, Manchester.
J. Evington, Apperley Dene, Stocksfield.
W. Grace, 15, Bradstone Avenue, Folkestone.
William Jackson, 4, Belmont Avenue, Lower Edmonton.
F. G. Miles, Hill Brow, Old Shoreham Road, Portslade.
H. S. Rawnsley, 66, Melrose Avenue, Cricklewood, N.W.
H. Taylor, 31, Neuchatel Road, Catford.

And now, what are *you* going to do about it? There is money waiting for *you*, even as it was waiting for the winners mentioned above. We are certain losers, "dead certs." as they say in the classics. We must pay out, no matter what the result; and it really does not matter a button to us if we pay the big prize to you. You send the coupon, we pay the money.

OUR "BULLETS" WINNER.

Mr. Jas. Davidson, of 111, Claremont Road, Pendleton, Manchester, the winner of the £500 prize in our 78th "Bullets" Competition, writes:—

> I am in receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., the contents of which gave me as pleasant a surprise as it has ever been my lot to have. I have been a steady contributor to the "Bullets" competitions, and have on many occasions won a small prize. Your magnificent prize will be a great help to me in the development of my business, which is that of a "credit draper," and it couldn't have arrived at a more opportune moment I enclose receipt for £500, and in conclusion wish to once more thank you and offer you my best wishes for the still greater success of JOHN BULL.

MORE TRIBUTES TO OUR "BULLETS"-JUDGING.

Mr. R. W. Buck, of 5, Taylor Street, Consett, Co. Durham, writes:—

> I write to thank you for the courtesy shown by your staff, when we visited your offices on Tuesday last to view the judging of "Bullets." The manager in charge was very kind indeed and explained everything as carefully as possible. My friend and I came away perfectly satisfied that everything in the judging of "Bullets" is absolutely straightforward, and a number of my friends here, who are "Bullets" enthusiasts and are unable to visit London, are delighted with my report. I am quite convinced that the best man or woman wins in your competition.

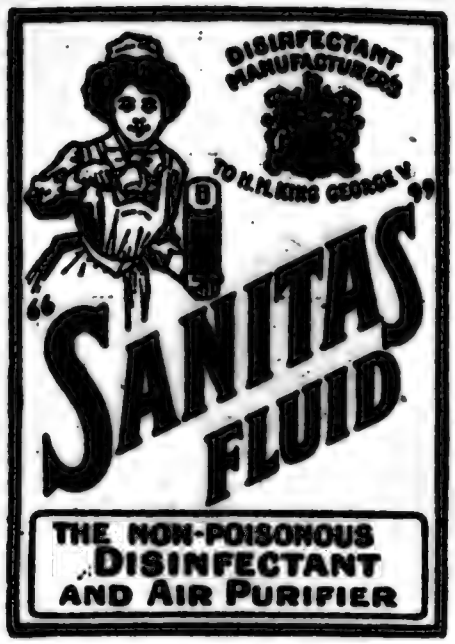
Mr. Richard Wilson, of Harrow, says:—

> I had the pleasure of paying a surprise visit on Thursday afternoon last, to your offices for the purpose of seeing the "Bullets" judges at work, and I am obliged to record the fact that I received the greatest courtesy from everyone. The judges themselves willingly answered my several questions, and lucidly explained to me the system of judging, which, I am obliged to state, is "O. K." in every particular. I noticed several coupons pinned to a sheet on which was written in blue-lead the words "money back," and it was explained to me that these competitors would receive their money back because they had not conformed to the rules governing the competition. I was bound to admit that, in the circumstances, they were receiving more consideration than they deserved. I took particular notice of one judge whilst he was going through about fifty coupons. There were three "bullets" among these which struck me as being worthy of at least a small prize, and *in each instance* the judge marked them as "possibles," after which they were put aside with *all* the others for further judging; which from my point of view fully proved its thoroughness.

And this from Mr. H. Spier, of 20, Ashdell Road, Sheffield:—

> It was with the greatest interest that I witnessed the judging of "Bullets." I have always felt somewhat curious to know how such competitions were dealt with, and I must say that the gentleman (one of your judges) with whom I had a somewhat lengthy conversation answered all my inquiries in a most kind and thoroughly satisfactory manner. In fact, by what I actually saw in regard to the careful scrutiny of coupons I feel that "Bullets," at any rate, could not possibly be conducted on fairer lines.

Our offer to everyone to come and see the judging for themselves is still open.



HOW TO MAKE YOUR NERVES BEHAVE.

GOOD ADVICE FOR TIRED, NERVOUS MEN AND WOMEN.

When you are run down, out of sorts, tire easily, have lost confidence in your ability to do things, and ambition seems to have deserted you, it's a sure sign your nerve force has run down, and that your nerves need a stimulant to restore to your system its old-time strength and energy, and bring back the good old pep that used to make you famous.

Boots Cash Chemists, and many other of the leading chemists in Great Britain, are selling a wonderful nerve remedy called Sargol on a positive guarantee of satisfaction or money back. It's amazing how quickly these Sargol tablets tone up the entire system, calm and steady the nerves, and put vim, vigour, and vitality into men and women who are fagged out, nervous, despondent, and ambitionless.

Thousands testify to their remarkable value in cases of severe mental depression, nervous prostration, nervous dyspepsia, "jumps," "fidgets," and the generally unstrung nerves that come from excessive work, worry, lack of sleep, or over-indulgence in drinking, eating, or smoking. They never fail to benefit. If you are blue, and feel as though you don't care a hang, or are cross, irritable, and your nerves are right on edge, get a packet of Sargol right away. The price is only 2s. 6d. a box. Eat one with every meal for a few days, and see what a wonderful improvement they make in your whole nervous system.

DON'T BUY A NEW STRAW

but get a 3d. packet of "Strobin," with which you can quickly and easily clean two straw hats or panamas (ladies' or gentlemen's), making them look like new

IT'S AS SIMPLE AS A B C

CLEANED WITH

Strobin

OF ALL CHEMISTS

PER 3d. PACKET.

Wholesale only.

THOS. CHRISTY & CO., OLD SWAN LANE, LONDON, E.C.

£20 A MONTH operating the NEW MODEL COMBINATION CAMERA. It takes and instantly develops eleven entirely different styles of pictures, including two sizes and four styles PAPER POST CARDS, six styles of Tintype Pictures, and Brooch Pictures. Requires no experience whatever. Everybody wants pictures. Five hundred per cent. profit. THE WORLD'S BIGGEST MONEY-MAKER. Small investment secures complete outfit, including Camera, Tripod, and material for 150 pictures. Make money the first day, no matter where you live or what you are doing. Detailed information free, including letters from prosperous operators everywhere. A. LASCELLE, Manager, 6, Beaverie St., Dept. 364, London, E.C.

SEND YOUR ENTRIES NOW. SECOND COUPON.

This week we give the second coupon in our First-of-the-Season Cricket Competition. Now is your opportunity; make use of this week's coupon and send your entries early.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the Cricket matches to be played on dates between May 11th and May 25th.

Before making your forecasts read our Special Method of marking the coupon, as explained by Rule 1.

Matches commenced and unfinished count as draws. If both sides score an equal number of runs the match will be regarded as being drawn. Matches not commenced at all, not a single ball being bowled, will be ignored. Thus

ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.

£1,000 will be paid to the Competitor sending us an entrance form giving a correct forecast of all the matches given. Should it happen that no entrance form be received containing all the correct results we shall award the huge cash prize of £500 to the competitor whose coupon shows one error only. In the event of the £1,000 or £500 not being won, we shall pay £150 to the competitor sending in the most correct forecasts, whatever the number. In addition, we shall pay a cash prize of £50 for the most correct forecast sent on a Mauve Coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. This is a distinct and additional prize—by using a Mauve Coupon the sender has the opportunity of winning not only the £1,000, £500, or £150, but also an extra £50.

£200 MUST BE WON.

The competition is one of skill, and a test of knowledge of cricket form. Competitors should make a point of studying the Cricket columns of the daily papers.

Our elaborate checking arrangements and our special method of marking the coupon safeguard the interests of our competitors in every way.

Our Competition Department is now under the personal supervision of "McW.," the well-known Sporting writer, late of the "Morning Leader" and "Daily Chronicle."

NO FEES
NO
SCORES
REQUIRED

The
COUPON
will be found
on
PAGE ii. of COVER.

As a guide to competitors we give with the coupon on page ii. of cover last year's results of the matches we have selected for this Competition, together with a duplicate Coupon, provided solely for the convenience of competitors in keeping a record of their entries. It must on no account be sent in.

Address: JOHN BULL, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. Mark envelope, "Cricket Contest No. 1." Closing date, Monday, May 11th.

SCOTTISH READERS MAY ENTER.

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

1. To safeguard the interests of our competitors we have adopted the following rule for marking the Entrance Form:—If you predict the Home Team will win, put a X in the Home Column; if you give the Away Team to win, put a X in the Away Column. For a Draw put a X in the Draw Column.
2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope in top left-hand corner Cricket Contest No. 1, and post to reach us not later than *first post* Monday, May 11th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.
3. The £1,000 cash prize will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results of all the matches, as published in the *Sporting Life*.
4. In the event of no Entrance Form containing all correct results, £500 will be paid to the competitor whose Coupon shows one error only. In the event of the £1,000 or £500 not being won, £150 will be awarded to the sender of the Entrance Form containing the nearest correct forecast. In addition a distinct cash prize of £50 will be awarded for the most correct forecast on a MAUVE COUPON taken from *Mary Bull*. If the sender of a mauve coupon should win or share the £1,000, the £500, or the £150, the *Mary Bull* prize will be awarded to the sender of the *next* most correct forecasts sent on a mauve coupon. In the event of the £1,000 or £500 prizes being won, the £150 prize will, of course, not be awarded. The £50 mauve coupon prize will be paid in any event.
5. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received.
6. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to the competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.
7. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.
8. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the £1,000, the £500, or the £150 prize, as well as the special £50 Mauve Coupon prize, will be equally divided.

THE CLOSING DATE IS MONDAY, MAY 11

£50 FOR A MAUVE COUPON £50

For the present Cricket Contest we shall award a distinct prize of £50 for the best forecast on a "Mary Bull" Mauve Coupon. This is an additional prize, the sender of the Mauve Coupon having the opportunity of winning not only the £1,000, the £500, or the £150, but also an extra £50. The second Mauve Coupon appears in this week's issue of "Mary Bull" on sale Friday next, May 1st.

You can send in as many Coupons as you like.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 34 where you will find particulars of "Bullets." Over 5,000 prizes are to be won this week. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered for the best "Bullet" received. In addition, twenty special 1 day prizes of £10 and £5 each are to be won this week besides many other handsome prizes.

JOHN BULL £50,000 DERBY SWEEP. Will readers please bear in mind that we cannot either supply or reply to applications for books of tickets for this sweepstake; nor can we act as agents for receiving and forwarding money for tickets. All communications *must* be addressed direct to Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, LEGAL *and* SPORTING *inquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, Legal or Sporting Editor, and, except in the case of the last named, must each be accompanied by a postal order for a shilling. All communications should be directed to* 93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

GENERAL.

Mrs. J. ORCHARD, 6, Anglesea Street, Vallance Road, Bethnal Green, appeals to her step-brother to communicate at once with his mother and father, who are very ill and much troubled at having heard nothing of him for two years—his last known address was at Fulham.

Mrs. E. C. B. (Clerkenwell).—Really, you must excuse us from reading your letter of 91 quarto pages.

X. (Falkirk).—Consult a qualified medical man. An operation is probably necessary.

"CYGNET" (London).—We are not aware that we have ever stated that a healthy and growing lad of good character, or an experienced farm worker, was "bound to starve in Australia." Read our articles again, and you will see that, whilst vigorously denouncing the emigration agencies and steamship companies which fatten upon the passage money extorted—particularly in the case of Canadian emigrants—by misrepresenting the climate and conditions of employment, we said nothing against any offer by the New South Wales and Victorian Governments, to specially selected classes, of cheap passages and guaranteed employment. After all, we—and you—must be fair!

E. H. (Leeds).—We have no special information about the Milson Chemical Company, of 136, Gray's Inn Road, London. Thanks for praises and good wishes.

F. M. B. (Thorpe Bay).—Send back the worthless watch which the door-tout has palmed off on your young maid, with a letter from her repudiating the agreement she was induced to sign, and don't let her be bullied by the firm.

D. R. (Honiton).—We can see through a brick wall as far as most people, but at our time of life we can't be expected to tell you what will happen after the Resurrection. Wait and see.

"DOUBTFUL" (Wolverhampton).—Can we tell you the name of the airman who was divorced from——? ProbablyFlyman, dearie, but we won't make an affidavit about it.

T. B. (Hull).—Leave all such rubbish as the treatment of the Viavi Company, Regent Street, London, severely alone. The concern is run by, or was originated by, Yankee quacks, and the women they send out delivering health lectures they have memorised are impostors.

A. C. (Aberdeen).—We have frequently stated that the Neu-Vita concern in Exchange Buildings, Southwark, London, deals in a Yankee quack invention. We have not tried it, and don't intend to.

B. D. (Homerton).—If you have completed "a device for the front of motor 'buses which would make it impossible for any person knocked down to be run over with the front wheels," but have not any money to patent it, we don't see what you can do. Unless, that is, you have a few friends willing to share possible or impossible profits with you.

W. T. (Upper Holloway).—"Can you inform me if the Ching-Ching series——" We can't make out your name and we have no knowledge of Ching-Ching.

E. P. (Wisbech).—All we know of "Dr." Delvine, the cancer man, is that his name has been made notorious in the papers.

S. S. (The Hyde).—We haven't the slightest idea which is "the best school to study for a sanitary inspector," unless it is the office of a sanitary inspector.

W. W. (Regina, Sask.).—We note from the *Regina Leader* you send us that "Decent people came away from the Regina Theatre last night with a bad taste in their mouths. They had seen and heard—Marie Lloyd." Marie, of course, will say she isn't responsible for their mouths.

"ALEXIS" (Muswell Hill).—Your hand-writing is certainly poor. A JOHN BULL pen improves penmanship—so readers tell us. Why not try one?

"TEETHLESS STRANGER" (Russell Square, W.C.).—Although up to now, we are still using our natural chewing machinery, we believe you can get a good set of false teeth from almost any *qualified dentist*, viz., dental surgeon, at a fair price nowadays. But if you go to any of the quacks the chances are you will have to pay for your teeth through the nose.

"A REGULAR READER" (Cambridge) informs us that he perpetrated the following lines in the train one morning: "Don't be late in the morn, But rise in the early dawn, When the thrush shakes up his dew worm, And the blackbird runs on the lawn." He says we "often print a lot worse." Then we apologise.

S. S. (Wakefield).—*Bot's Weekly* is a paper trap to catch fools.

W. W. (Bradford).—We note that the evil reputation of the Alhambra Warehouse Co. is known at Bradford Post Office. Do the officials there amuse themselves by reading the bitter complaints of angry depositors?

"ISLANDER" (Hayling).—The fact that the Rev. Bruce Cornford, Vicar of Portsea, and his boys recently strewed your island home with "sheets and half sheets of his parish magazine" during a paper chase, and the horror of the inhabitants concerning the same, are hereby noted. You may inform our rev. friend that if he does not better control the circulation of his magazine we shall deal with him in a serious manner.

"FAITHFUL READER" (Cirencester).—Many thanks. As a poet you are at present rather too strong in the arm and too lame in the feet to reach the top of Parnassus, but even if you did so we fear you would tumble off and break your neck. Let your hair grow for ten years and then try again.

"LOTUS" (Ashton-on-Ribble).—We have frequently advised readers to have nothing to do with the Waterman Advertising Co., of Theobald's Road, London, W.C. They are audacious trick advertisers.

A. L. (South Tottenham).—If you don't like the watch, send it back. You are not obliged to purchase it. As regards the Royal Card Co., of Kew, this concern was founded by notorious flat-traps, who have undergone imprisonment for swindling.

"APPRENTICE ENGINEER" (Clydebank).—Really such piffle as that you send us from the *Forward*—whatever that may be—scarcely calls for a serious answer. If the recent disclosures in reference to the control of the War Office by Party politicians did not convince your friends of the rottenness of the existing system, nothing we can say would do so.

H. O. N. (Oneida, N.Y.S.) is good enough to inform C. E. B. (Devon) that the best American poultry publication is the *Reliable Poultry Journal*, of Quincy, Ill., U.S.A.

A. S. (Watford)—informs us that according to the Clockmaker we of JOHN BULL "are bull-necked, bull-headed folk, sulky, ugly tempered, vicious critters, a-pawin' and a-roarin' the whole time, and plaguy unsafe unless well matched." Anyhow, we don't care a toss for the Clockmaker—by whom, we presume, is meant the late Judge Haliburton, of the U.S.A.

JAS. E. B. (Sowerby Bridge).—You should have had nothing to do with the Electricon concern (Lawrence E. Palmer, Ltd., Holborn Hall, London, W.C.), and if they do not return your money for the ineffective appliance, according to their undertaking, put them into the County Court.

F. P. (Sunderland).—If a man has been tried and acquitted he can't be tried again for the same crime.

C. J. H. (London, S.E.).—The school of languages you name is certainly "genuine."

"IRENE" (Holborn).—Other things being equal, it was not fair to dismiss you, a single girl, and put a married woman in your place.

"DEAN" (Earlswood).—The address of the character-from-handwriting expert who has got your shilling does not occur to our memory.

"MOORS" (Barry).—So you really think one of the daily newspapers tells stories, do you? Dear, dear, oh dear!

E. W. C. (Southampton) and OTHERS.—"Captain Robert Bland, of 30, Herald Chambers, Martineau Street, Birmingham," is an obvious liar, and his "lucky stones" at 2s. 6d. a time are about as lucky as chips of—coal.

L. W. G. (Kew Gardens, S.W.).—If your son is determined to become a reporter, the sooner he gets into a newspaper office the better.

H. L. (Upper Clapton).—Glad you succeeded in extracting your 6s. from the voracious maw of the British Supply Stores, concerning whom you recently wrote us.

You Want a Holiday This Year. Let "Bullets" Pay for it. See page 34.

W.A. (N Shields).—You mark your "Bullets 'joke" All rights unreserved.' And undeserved, too, if you ask us.

F. F. (Bexhill).—To place manure on a footway or road with the object of carrying it into your garden is a technical obstruction certainly, but the Bexhill police must be hard up for a job to bring such cases into court. However, 1s. and costs, with a week to pay in, isn't a very heavy penalty.

"TOGO" (Hanley).—We know nothing about Max Marks' Variety Agency, of 39, Prince George's Avenue, Raynes Park, Wimbledon. But Raynes Park strikes us as being a queer place to find a variety agency.

F. K. (Scunthorpe).—We understand you have difficulty in obtaining delivery of a motor-house from Messrs. M. Stanton and Co., Hormead Road, Great Western Road, Paddington, W., although you sent cheque with order. Doubtless they will explain the reason of the delay. Failing this, you have always your solicitors, you know.

X. Y. Z. (London).—We know nothing against the College you mention. As regards the establishment of an "advertisement investigator," we ourselves fill that office as far as the means at our disposal go. Which is a pretty good way, as you will see if you read these columns carefully week by week.

"SURPRISED" (Gainsboro').—We presume you are surprised because it is becoming the custom not only to provide paupers (hateful word!) with food, but also sets of artificial teeth to eat it with. Certainly, the one is not much use without the other, so why chew the rag?

F. C. M. S. (Weybridge).—They apologised at last; that is something.

F. H. (Northampton).—The coin you describe is probably a George III. two-pound piece. What do you mean when you say, "It is a little brighter than an ordinary sovereign"? Can *anything* be brighter than a Jimmy O'Goblin?

W. W. W. (Cork).—We know nothing about Blosser's cure for Catarrh, but if we were you we should sniff at it.

F. W. (Levenshulme).—Stuart and Ward, the missing-heir merchants, are fee-snatchers. Advise your septuagenarian friend to have nothing to do with them.

F. F. K. (Harborne).—We have often expressed our candid opinion of the London Jewellery Syndicate, of Barbican Court, E.C. It is by no means complimentary. The 6d. you sent we have handed over to our "Human Documents" Fund, as you doubtless have seen.

J. C. W. (Hampstead).—Certainly, we are out for a true democracy. But after reading your letter we are at a loss to know what part you could occupy in it. We should have to reserve some remote island for men of your mental type.

W. A. (Dublin).—The people are well-known advertisement tricksters. You did well to write them as you did.

A. W. (Fife).—Thanks for your appreciative screed. Rest assured our shadow is not likely to gross less. The tendency is rather in the opposite direction.

T. W. (Ferryhill).—It seems very unfair that the man should be penalised for his own thrift, but in the result it is apparently not such actual hardship as would justify us in giving to the matter as much space as it would need to make it clear.

W. B. M. (Worcester).—No other complaints have reached us of his methods, which apparently bring his transactions within the line as trading debts. If he gets over it, we are sure to hear of him.

"UBIQE" (Plaistow, E.).—We know nothing of R. Norton, 9, Chancery Lane, and A. J. Leigh, 92, Great Russell Street, London, both of whom advertise a cure for a certain disease. Much better consult a duly qualified medical man.

"CO. ANTRIM" (Carrickfergus).—With much of your interesting letter we agree, but although you are "aware of the fallacy of arguing from the particular to the general," isn't that rather the way you argue? Contracts express or implied are essential to civilised life; in fact they enter into all its diversified relationships.

J. N. (Worthing).—You tell us you have what you believe to be "an absolute cure for rheumatism and gout," and ask if we think it genuine. Better try it on the dog, and let us know the result.

H. V. T. (Shaftesbury Theatre).—As you are taking proceedings against the house agents, all we have to do is to wait with interest to hear the result.

NELLIE A. (Kingston-on-Thames).—Assuming your account of the circumstances to be correct, the firm undoubtedly did play a dirty trick on you, but we doubt whether you could prove the verbal promise. Thanks.

J. M. (Tottenham).—Your championship of the woman does credit to your heart, but it is dangerous for an outsider to judge in such cases. We are bound to take the evidence—and on the evidence, so far as we can see, the magistrates had no option but to make the Separation Order.

"DISGUSTED" (Plaistow) E.).—The trouble is that your wife's story may differ from the other woman's story. We have no means of judging between them.

F. G. (Portlaw).—The legal speed limit of motor vehicles in London generally, excluding parks, is 20 miles an hour.

H. W. (Willesden).—Not suitable.

"A COOK" (Knaphill) says: "When ladies act more fairly towards their domestics they will experience much less trouble in finding suitable maids." Ah; that's the rub—When!

B. G. (Norton).—We do not remember to have heard anything against the firm, and you must judge it by the character of the transaction into which it proposes to enter with you.

S. M. (Leicester).—We presume you read Scotch for amusement, and drink it for relaxation. What do you do when you're on a fair old tear?

W. A. Mc. (Sunderland).—We have had pleasure in forwarding the letter you enclosed.

"NORTHUMBRIAN" (London, W.) thinks it "would be much better for the world if we hung nine persons out of every ten"—feeling confident he would be a tenth. We are not so sure. He deserves to hang for writing anonymously, for one thing.

T. W. (Fulham, S.W.).—One would have thought that a man who knows the meaning of *verb. sap.* would not require one of our feeblest jokes to be explained to him.

T. W. H. (Bow, E.).—How can we say whether it is right unless you explain *why* your firm deduct 2s. in the £ from your wages?

L. G. (Manchester).—We will enter into the spirit of his bet that Woolworth's in New York is 52 storeys high, when we have measured it. Meanwhile, one storey more or less does not trouble us.

C. S. (Goole).—Yours fraternally, also.

"ALEXANDER" (Kinlochleven).—"I am now back in my place again by me only telling them I would write to JOHN BULL." They *must* have trembled.

J. H. (Dukinfield).—We have exposed their tricky advertisement time and time again. You have no useful remedy.

"NEMO" (Kilskeery).—We note that one of the testimonials to the new curate states that "since he left I have heard good things about him." What about it? It is better than hearing bad things about him while he was there, isn't it?

PAT. O. B. (Ponty., Glam.).—It is not uncommon for judges and magistrates to be previously furnished with the "record" of prisoners. In strict justice a judge ought to know nothing of a prisoner's antecedents until he has been convicted.

E. G. A. (Fleur-de-Lis).—Your "u's" and "n's" and "w's" are so much alike that we can't make out the name of the town you write from. If the vicar was so late for the funeral, as you state, he must have forgotten to remember. It was very remiss of him.

R. M. D. (Tonsaasen) informs R. C. P. (Halifax) that a book on Roman roads in Britain, by Mr. Codrington, is published by the S.P.C.K., and he is hereby thanked.

J. C. W. (Manchester).—If that is the firm's usual form of agreement for new hands, there's an end. In the circumstances we do not see that there is very much the matter with it.

"MARINO" (Chatham) hints that it isn't safe to pull the leg of present day Marines, as they have a nasty knock of pulling noses. Well, one good pull deserves another.

"IN DOUBT" (Montreal).—It is interesting to hear from you that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company are forcing upon their police an agreement making engagements terminable at any time "without notice and without assigning any cause therefor." We have no doubt that it is legally enforceable against you, notwithstanding the terms of your original employment.

L. C. (Sharrow).—A child of 14, which you confess to be, should not write verses about Lloyd George, or anybody else, suggesting that he should go to hell. We do not encourage precocity of that sort.

"CONSTANT READER" (Lerwick, N.B.).—The Chief Inspector of the Board of Customs and Excise, London, E.C., can best tell you how to become a Preventive Officer, and the qualifications required.

J. G. F. (Pye Bridge).—We think it inadvisable to pay *any* employment agency large fees in advance. This is not meant as a reflection on their *bona fides*, but no agent can *guarantee* employment.

W. B. (Craigwen).—The name of our present Sovereign (God bless him!) is George Guelph, in the sense that King Edward VII. was a Guelph (though an actual Coburger) in the right of his mother, Queen Victoria.

W. T. (Rawtenstall).—We cannot tell you whether the knitting machine you name is worth the price charged for it.

"BONSA" (Wolverhampton).—The rights of the lord of the manor are too complicated and extensive to be described in this column. Moreover, they vary in different districts and are mostly obsolete.

Result of Our First Sporting Competition. £500 Won. See page 28.

LEGAL.

"DOUBTFUL" (Swansea).—On the facts as stated, you could claim the mechanical rights, but only for the period for which you acquired the copyright, not for the extended period prescribed by the 1911 Act.

"FIFE" (Lowestoft).—You are bound by the bargain, as an offer remains open until it is withdrawn.

F. B. (Birkenhead).—As the accident was unavoidable and not due to the negligence of the driver, you cannot obtain any compensation.

"ANXIOUS" (Bearsden).—You are bound by the agreement and must pay the full price for the books—unless the firm will agree to take them back.

"MRS. D." (Hereford).—The prescriptions rest entirely with the panel doctor. If you consider you have ground for complaint you should communicate with the Insurance Commissioners, Buckingham Gate, S.W.

"T. W. R." (Lincoln).—Your power to dismiss the secretary or to reduce his salary depends upon the terms of his engagement. In the absence of any agreement to the contrary, a secretary is entitled to three months' notice. Provided there is no agreement to the contrary, a shareholder can sell his shares to anyone he likes.

"LEX" (Birmingham).—Unless you can prove that the solicitor has been guilty of unprofessional conduct it would be useless communicating with the Law Society. You should instruct another solicitor to ascertain what the exact position is, but first make a bargain as to his charges.

E. J. A. (Walthamstow).—Your case is complicated, and would be expensive to fight. Philanthropic solicitors are non-existent. You must wait until you have saved a little money.

"LYDIATE" (Ormskirk).—The question is not only whether the accident happened in the ordinary course of the man's employment, but whether the foreman and the deceased could be brought within the doctrine of common employment. On the whole, we should say it would be held that the foreman was not then acting in the service of his master, and that the man's widow was thus out of court.

"NEWAGENT" (Aldgate).—Accepting your version as correct, the assistant undoubtedly induced your customer to part with his money for the watch by false representations. He should show him this reply, and politely, but firmly, request the return of the amount.

L. D. R. (Gresford).—Wedding presents belong to whichever party they were given to.

T. E. W. (Swansea).—If your furniture was damaged by the negligence of the railway servants while moving it, you can sue the company in the County Court for damages.

"BEEN HAD" (Upton Park).—You are under a misapprehension; you cannot get much advice from a solicitor for 1s. 8d. It depends upon the length of the interview—they generally manage to squeeze a guinea a time. You will not succeed in getting any part of your guinea back—not even if you consult another solicitor. The second will get another guinea out of you, and that is all the satisfaction you will obtain.

H. B. (Bursiem).—Assuming your statement correct you were entitled to dispose of the stuff he left on the premises in whole or partial satisfaction of the rent which he did not pay, but if there is any balance due to him on the sale you must pay it to him.

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial Insurance Inquiry.

WHITWORTH COLLIERIES.—J. & E. D. (Goldthorpe).—Mr. C. H. Bull, 6a, Devonshire Square, London, E.C., was appointed Receiver and Manager in December, 1911, and you might communicate with him, but we are afraid there is not much chance of the shareholders getting any of their money back.

GENERAL APOTHECARIES CO.—REALISE (Surrey).—It is usual for the secretary in such cases to help a shareholder to find a purchaser, but of course he may not know of one. You might advertise the share through a medical paper, but perhaps your best plan is to wait till you come across someone to whom the privilege would be valuable.

OMNIUM INVESTMENT DEFERRED.—A. M. P. (Durham).—You need not be at all uneasy about this investment, although naturally the stock is not so well secured as the Preferred, which yields nearly 1 p.c. less. But we think it is safe enough for all practical purposes and much prefer it to the other stocks you mention.

AFRICAN LANDS.—B. V. M. (Kenfig Hill).—Please send the complete title of the company in which you are interested, as we cannot trace it from the name given.

PREMIUM BONDS.—E. L. (Handsworth).—You may take it as certain that you are safest in the hands of a respectable firm like Cunliffe, Russell & Co., and there would not be such a big difference in the terms as you mention unless there were some very good reason. You know there is no London market in these bonds, and the business has to be put through Paris, so that in the end you would probably find the price "cheap and nasty."

INVESTMENT.—T. W. (Hendon).—You can buy Great Northern Railway Consolidated Preference stock (a Trustee security) to yield just over 4 p.c. and you will find that a more satisfactory investment than most Colonials.

LEWIS AND BURROWS.—SOLO (W. S. M.).—The market is very restricted and we are not sure whether you will be able to deal. ORGANISER LD.—Preference shares had better be sold if you can find a purchaser.

PREMIUM BONDS.—INVESTOR.—Quite sound, but the best firm to deal with is Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., of 10, rue du 4 Septembre, La Bourse, Paris.

INVESTMENT REGISTRY.—EDWAD (South Wales).—We have no special information respecting the methods of this concern since it came under new management

JAMAICA COPRA AND ESTATES CO.—WEST INDIAN.—We dealt fully with this undertaking in our issue of March 7th last, and consider its shares possess considerable attractions.

THREELEGGED LEAD MINES.—(Deathorel Green).—We do not know the concern but shall be glad to look at any particulars you have.

REGENT STREET FUR COMPANY.—FURZE.—You can only communicate with the secretary, but it is extremely doubtful whether you will recover anything.

NAKAMUN ASPHALT AND OIL.—SHAMROCK (Dublin), TOXTETH.—We have frequently warned our readers to have nothing to do with this concern. The best investment we know of is the Six Per Cent. JOHN BULL Preference Shares.

INVESTMENTS.—T. F. (Middleton).—Your list is all right, but we should prefer Great Northern Deferred to Furness Ordinary. London Electric Preference shares yield about 6 per cent., and seem quite safe.

PUBLISHERS.—D. W. (Heacham).—The firm in question has seen considerable vicissitudes, but we believe it has been doing better lately. The preference shares, however, must be regarded as somewhat speculative, and there is very little market in them.

WESTRALIAN MINES.—S. V. (Camborne).—We hear good accounts of Golden Horseshoes, but they must be regarded as a pure speculation, not an investment. You would probably do better to buy Zinc Corporations.

FOREIGN BONDS.—BROKER.—We advise you not to have anything to do with the firm in question, and you should entirely ignore their "tips."

ROYAL SOVEREIGN INSURANCE SOCIETY.—C. M. 737.—We are surprised to learn from your statement that this extraordinary Society, which after a short run vacated their abode, has recommenced business operations at the old address. We will inquire into the matter. Meanwhile, we approve your decision to leave them alone.

ANNUITIES.—H. W. T. (Liverpool).—Our fear is that over speculation may sooner or later have a disturbing effect upon the valuation of Canadian securities. The security of the three offices you mention is beyond question.

PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.—PUZZLED WORKER.—We have repeatedly stated our objections to the Investment House Purchase Policies of this concern, and cannot recommend you to join.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA INSURANCE CORPORATION.—P. H. H. (Chalk Farm).—The benefits are guaranteed by an established Assurance Company, and, having regard to the number of premiums already paid, you had better keep the policy going.

RELIANCE FIRE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE CORPORATION.—F. W. (Portsmouth).—We are not favourably impressed. We do not recommend the United Friendly Society. Make another selection.

INSURANCE BROKER.—T. J. S. (Staines).—There is no legal objection to your using the title. You may find it advantageous to be associated with one of the recognised institutions. Apply to the Secretary, The Corporation of Insurance Brokers and Agents, 1, Queen Street, Cheapside, London, E.C., for particulars.

ABSTAINERS AND GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—BRICKWORK.—We should accept the Surrender Value, or the Company would no doubt be willing to grant you a loan which would enable you to continue the policy in force. The Surrender Values allowed by British Companies are not on too generous a scale and do not compare favourably with the more enterprising American and Canadian Offices.

MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.—A. R. B. (Birmingham).—You will be quite safe in effecting the Endowment Assurance Policy you mention.

INSURANCE ACTION.—W. J. C. (Hull).—It is impossible for us to devote space to a critical discussion on your case. We have read the correspondence and newspaper report, and consider you have good reason for feeling aggrieved. You should go on with your work.

PREMIUM BONDS.—M. B. (Baksna).—No register of drawn bonds is kept here, but you should write to Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., 10, rue du 4 Septembre, Paris, who may supply you with the desired information.

SPORTING.

PATRICK O'BRIEN'S COMBINATION SWEEP.—G. D. (Bedford).—For full particulars you must apply direct to Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Lucerne, Switzerland. We understand there is a great demand for the tickets and advise you to write soon.

"JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP.—P. J. C. (Chasewater).—It is not necessary to take the whole book of tickets, and you can destroy those you do not require.—R. D. M. (Blackpool).—We have the authority of Mr. Cullerne-Bown, of the Lucerne Totalisator, for saying that nothing in his Derby Sweepstake circular was intended to reflect upon the *bona fides* of Messrs. Smallman and Terry's John Bull Derby Sweep.—INTACHER.—The only suggestion we can make is that there should be a memo attached to each ticket to the effect that, if it draws a prize, such prize is to be distributed *pro rata* with the other nine tickets contained in the same book.—MRS. E. A. (Exeter).—Yes, we can vouch for the *bona fides* of this Sweep, which is this year under the management of Messrs. Smallman and Terry, of Geneva. Last year it was conducted by Mr. Patrick O'Brien, who is now carrying on business at Lucerne. He is not running a Sweepstake on the Derby this year.—P. B. (Chelsea).—The result of the Draw will appear in the issue of JOHN BULL for the week ending May 30th.—COLONIAL.—Of course Messrs. Smallman and Terry will accept John Bull Bank Cheques in payment for tickets. If you have a small account with the Bank it will save you the trouble of buying postal orders, besides which the paid cheque is always a receipt for your remittance.

PATRICK O'BRIEN.—F. M. (Teignmouth).—Lucerne is quite sufficient address.

H. DIAMOND (Lucerne).—M. R. (Portsmouth).—We understand that Mr Diamond is not running a Sweepstake on this year's Derby. Like Mr Patrick O'Brien, he is leaving the field to the John Bull Derby Sweep.

BROWN AND BELL.—W. H. A. (Edinburgh).—Your client's complaint is a fair *sample* of the methods of these people.

WILLIAM LOTTON.—J. K. (Wakefield).—The answer to your question is a most emphatic negative.

TOTALISATOR (Lucerne).—T. F. A. C. (Streatham).—Quite genuine.

£500 won! See Result of Our First Sporting Competition. Page 28.

CITY NOTES.

(For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see Letter Bag pages.)

The Stock Markets.

With the outbreak of hostilities between the United States and Mexico business on the Stock Exchange has dwindled to smaller proportions than ever, and only one or two small groups have shown any animation. We refer below to the effect on Mexican Railway stocks, and Canadas also slumped heavily, the price dropping steadily, without any sustained rallies, after the 200 mark was passed. Berlin was a persistent seller, and there were rumours about a German Trust Company being in difficulties, while the illness of the Emperor Francis Joseph was another depressing influence. New York and Montreal also threw out stock. As is well-known, a great deal of Canadian capital is locked-up in Brazilian and Mexican public utility companies, on which the losses are extremely heavy, and marketable securities must be realised at any sacrifice to fill the gap. It might easily turn out that, large as Britain's direct interests in Mexico are, we may be most severely hit through these Canadian investments. The American market has been sadly flustered, because the crisis has come at a most inconvenient time. What Wall Street wanted above all else at present was a period of quiet recuperation until the numerous financing schemes which have to be undertaken could be comfortably arranged, and this is fully appreciated by market leaders, although it does not bulk largely in New York war talk. Elsewhere business was practically dead. The Egyptian and Grosny sections of the Oil market cut out a line of their own and showed considerable strength, but Rubbers could not bear up against the renewed weakness of the raw material, and Mines were almost entirely neglected.

Mexican Railway Dividend Passed.

Until President Wilson decided to send the United States fleet to Vera Cruz and thus commence what may prove to be a very long and costly war, the Stock Exchange estimated that 4 per cent. might be paid on Mexican Railway First Preference stock. And even when Mexico's chief port had been bombarded the dividend announcement was awaited with a tense interest that indicated but a poor conception of the actual position. Of course any distribution at the present juncture was out of the question immediately the first shot had been fired, and all the directors could do was to place £77,000 (equal to 3 per cent. on the Firsts) to a special reserve. This was regarded in most quarters as fairly satisfactory, but it did not prevent a sheer drop to 90—a loss of 25 points during the account and of over 50 points since last year. The fact is the stock has for a long time been regarded as a perfectly-sound investment, and it is mainly held by people who looked to it for a steady income. Many of these investors cannot afford to wait till matters right themselves; they are forced to realise in order to obtain some return on the balance of their capital. When the price has fallen a bit further the stock will be worth picking up by those who can afford to wait.

Willans and Robinson.

It is always gratifying to see a fine old business, which from one cause or another has fallen on evil times, showing some signs of recovering its former position. This company was at one time among the leading engineering firms in the Midlands, but it muddled somehow into insolvency, and had to be reconstructed twice. The report for the past year shows a substantial improvement in the position with a net profit of £8,780, after providing for debenture interest and depreciation. And so the Ordinary shareholders are to receive a dividend of 10 per cent. for the first time for many years, but as their interest in the concern is cut down to a beggarly £1,500, the total distribution will not add much to the income tax receipts. Still, it is a good step in the right direction, and we hope that the next one will be considerably better. When the dividend gets up to 100 per cent. or more there will be greater reason for congratulation.

Messrs.

Discussion is taking place in the financial press as to whether joint-stock companies should have this prefix attached to their titles when addressed by letter. We think so. If the concern be successful it might be spelt "Messrs." If otherwise "Messers" would fill the bill.

Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa.

We understand that the oil shale properties acquired by this Company, to which we referred last week, are situated in the Paulpietersburg Division, Natal, and are over 8,000 acres in extent. It may be recalled that Mr. E. H. Cunningham Craig, who visited South Africa on behalf of the Union Government, for the purpose of making a report upon its petroleum prospects, strongly recommends the development of the oil shale beds when found under favourable conditions, the chief of which are, thickness of seam and accessibility of area. In many parts of South Africa oil shales are met with which are very rich in oil, but the seams are thin, and, consequently, the cost of mining would be disproportionate to the value of the deposits. There can be no question, however, as to the value of the properties acquired by The Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, as, according to Mr. Cunningham Craig's report, the seams examined by him are between 7 and 8 feet thick, and, to quote his words, "the quantity of material is almost unlimited." Samples of the shale have been tested by Mr. J. K. Erskine, of Johannesburg, who obtained results running to as much as 34 gallons of crude oil and 71 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia per ton. On the basis of only 20 gallons of crude oil and 50 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia per ton, Mr. Craig states that a net working profit of approximately 15s. per ton of shale treated may be relied upon, and he advocates the erection of a plant capable of treating 300 tons per day to start with. On the basis of 300 tons per day, or 9,000 tons per month, a profit of 15s. per ton is equivalent to £81,000 per annum. A subsidiary Company is in course of formation, having a capital of £500,000, in shares of £1 each, of which 250,000 will be issued, and very handsome dividends should be paid. No doubt the Chairman will have some interesting information to give at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The Optimists.

The directors of a concern having its origin thirty-four years ago, and having undergone no fewer than seven reconstructions, are seriously expecting shareholders to support them in the eighth now contemplated. It was in 1880 that the Indian Glenrock Gold Mining Co., Ltd., first saw the light of day. After amalgamating in 1882 with two other companies, it changed its operations to coffee, fibre and cinchona cultivation. Its first reconstruction took place in 1884, and in 1886 it acquired some interests in the Argentine. Its second reconstruction was effected in 1890, when it transferred its operations to New Zealand. 1893 saw its third, and 1895 its fourth reconstruction, on the last occasion as Glenrock Consolidated Ltd. Its fifth reconstruction took place in 1899, when it acquired some interests in West Australia. All these things having proved unprofitable, it reconstructed for the sixth time in 1901 as the Indian Glenrock (Wynaad) Co., Ltd., and returned to its native place, changing from gold to rubber in 1907. In the following year its seventh reconstruction took place, as the Malambur Rubber Estates, Ltd., and its eighth, as already stated, is now pending. Shareholders who support the scheme will have one satisfaction at least, namely, that wild cats, like ordinary ones, have but nine lives, and that even the directors, who must be optimists of the first water, are likely to bow to the inevitable in time, and give the thing decent burial.

T. R. Roberts, Limited.

For the third time, ordinary shareholders are not receiving a dividend, whilst the preference shares only receive 4½ per cent. This, after the drastic writing off of 10s. on each ordinary share in 1910, tends to confirm the opinion that the company requires new blood in its management. If there has been a year when drapers and outfitters have done well it was in 1913. The directors recently had the temerity to meet their shareholders and to attempt to explain away their ill-success by blaming the Shops Hours Act, which deprived them of 208 hours' trading during the year. Inasmuch as the company has not been able to earn its full preference dividend during the year, the directors could hardly expect to be taken seriously when they stated that, but for the loss of these hours, the company would have been able to pay not only the full dividend, but 4 per cent. on the ordinary shares also. Shareholders have appointed a committee, with a mandate to investigate the methods pursued by the board in carrying on the business of the company during the hours its doors were open.

Another Free Sporting Competition this Week. Particulars and Coupon on page 36.

RECORD HOLIDAY PRIZES!

FIRST PRIZE

£500

FIRST PRIZE

2nd Prize £50

3rd Prize £25

20 HOLIDAY PRIZES

TEN £10 NOTES. TEN £5 NOTES.

50 Prizes of 10/- | **4,000 Handsome HOLIDAY PRIZES Value £900.** | **1,000 Prizes of 2/6**

PRIZES INCREASED TO £1,775 IN VALUE.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

HOLIDAY PRIZES
WHEN SWEETHEART CALLS
UNDISCOVERED CRIME
UPSETTING THE CABINET
BOMBARDED
BLANK REFUSAL
PROMISING COLT
BEHIND THE STUMPS

FIRST NIGHT
CORRUPT OFFICIALS
WHEN IN LODGINGS
DEFIES NATURE
A FAST SET
ROYAL RECEPTION
LANDING THE MARINES
ADDS INTEREST

AN OPEN SECRET
PROSPECTIVE BRIDE
FLOWERY LANGUAGE
THE PARTY PRESS
WELL SCREENED
JUDICIAL ENQUIRY
WEARING A SMILE
REMAINS SINGLE

RASH PURCHASE
CONTEMPLATING MARRIAGE
NOT SPOTTED
EXPECTING A TIP
SITTING SUSPENDED
BAD TRADE
LITTLE BY LITTLE
ANOTHER ENGAGEMENT

SUGARING THE PILL
UNFOUNDED RUMOUR
FORWARD DEMEANOUR
CUTS UP ROUGH
TARNISHED REPUTATION
BY CHIEF WANT
BALD FACTS
SUDDEN STOP

5,073 PRIZES TO BE WON THIS WEEK

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words of three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST AND LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "FLOWERY LANGUAGE" and take the letters "A" and "E" using the word "BLOWS" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "AFTERWARDS BLOWS EXCHANGED." From the example "RASH PURCHASE" the Bullet "USUALLY REGRETTED" can be made. Again, if you choose the example "CORRUPT OFFICIALS" using the letter "R" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet "RECEIVE BRIBES READILY."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order or one shilling must be sent.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see the "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, May 6th.

Example.....

Bullet.....

Example.....

Bullet.....

(83) P.O. No.....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 35.

Signed.....

Address.....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL" dated May 9th.

Closing date, Wednesday, May 13th.

Example.....

Bullet.....

Example.....

Bullet.....

(83) P.O. No.....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 35.

Signed.....

Address.....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 83," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

The Result of this Competition will appear in our issue dated May 23rd.

For Rules, etc., see opposite page.

RESULT OF 80TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500 :—

Mr. GEO. EATON,
28, Jusr Street, Battersea, London, S.W.

Example :—GETTING THE NEEDLE.
Bullet :—DOESN'T MEND THINGS.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50 :—

Mr. A. A. MOORE,
c.o. R. Nicol and Sons, Redhill, Surrey.

Example :—TAKES THE BUN.
Bullet :—TENEMENT'S OVEN—NICELY.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25 :—

Mr. ROBT. RANDS,
43, Northbrook Road, Ilford, Essex.

Example :—MY WIFE'S ADVICE.
Bullet :—DINNERS BEFORE "WINNERS."

20 PRIZEWINNERS OF £2 10s. EACH.

Mr. LEONARD A. GREENWOOD, 33, Hilton-crescent, Prestwich, near Manchester
SWEETHEART'S HOLIDAY—WHERE "COVER" ABOUND.
Mr. H. T. SPENCER, 35, Totteridge Road, High Wycombe, Bucks
WELL I NEVER—HOT NAVVY'S EXCLAMATION.
Mr. C. A. WILSON, Walton Villas, Anslow, Burton-on-Trent.
FLYING MAN—FINDS "UPKEEP" INDISPENSABLE.
Mr. T. V. GAMBLE, 152, Block, Cambridge Cottages New Road, Woolwich, S.E.
CHEAP RAZOR—RETAILER "SHARPER" OCCASIONALLY.
Mr. H. TURNER, 59, Margaret Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lanc.
FAMILY MAN—BOURNE HIS "LOT."
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IN GREAT DANGER—DECORUM—GUSTY DAYS.
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SPRING MEETING—SHAREHOLDERS DO SOMETIMES.
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Albrecht, H., c.o. Benal Bros., 2, Mosley Street, Manchester.
Allwork, A., Cavalry Club, 127, Piccadilly, W.
Arnold, G. W., 36, Tressillian Road, Brockley, S.E.
Arnison, A. Miss, Crookelty House, Millbeck, Keswick, Cumb.
Bailey, C., 111, Main Street, Bangor, Co. Down, Ireland.
Bowen, F. A., 3, Merton Road, Southsea.
Buck, C., 17, Leyburn Grove, Shipley, Yorks.
Chapman, H. S., Bystock, Esher, Surrey.
Cheverst, C. H., 47, Thorngate Road, Elgin Ave., London, W.
Clarke, A. S., Conservative Club, Bohemia, St. Leonards-on-Sea
Carr, H., 80, Halstead-street, Brixton, S.W.
Dodd, Mary L., Broughton Heck, nr. Ulverston, Lanca.
Duncan, W., 19, Mount Street, Glasgow.
Duck, G. R., Jubilee Hotel, Clun, Shropshire.
Fox, W., 275, Waterloo Road, S.E.
Garlick, J. M., 64, Holbeck Street, Anfield, Liverpool.
Gee, S., 24, Poynters Avenue, Thorneywood, Notts.
Godbold, H. A., Sec., Acton Vale, Working Men's Club, 135, The Vale, Acton.
Goldsworthy, T. F., 55, Hillier Road, Broomwood Road, Clapham Junction, S.W.
Hall, A., Staff. G.P.O., Parcels Office, Manchester.
Hooker, J. A., 40, Barnfield Road, Ealing.
Hollan d, P., c.o. Orchester, The Berkeley Hotel, Piccadilly, W.
Hughes, W., 27, Berners Street, Ipswich, Suffolk.
Hulme, G. A., 13, Torbay Road, Charlton-cum-Hardy.
Hannath, H., 13, Farnley Square, Ella Street, Hull.
Hartley, W., 56, Derby Street, Burton-on-Trent.
Kranth, B. Mrs., 16, Armoury Road, Small Heath, Birmingham.
Larn, F., 24, Mount Pleasant, Norwich.
Linley, H., 1, Fisher Road, Meersbrook, Sheffield.
Lockhart, A. C., 40, Volta Street, Selby.
Lucas, N. N., 85, Lees Road, Oldham.
Marshall, F. W., 41, Caird Street, Queen's Park, W.
McGarry, J., 4, Corporation Street, Belfast.
Neal, Mrs., 1, Burr Villas, Bexley Heath, Kent.
Partridge, J., Little Grange Lodge, Whyteleafe, Surrey.
Powers, H., 13, Berners Street, Oxford Street, W.
Pownall, E., 60, Kirk Road, Linacre, Liverpool.
Rawbone, A., 22, Fairlawn Grove, Chiswick, W.
Rees, H. M., 1, Victoria Road, Leamington.
Reid, D. M., 33, Greenbank Crescent, Edinburgh.
Robinson, J., 19, Bedford Road, Harrow, Middlesex.
Simpson, G. E., 13, Alma Grove, Fulford Road, York.
Steele, J., c.o. Mr. H. E. Wall, 1, Bedford Road, Clapham, S.W.
Tilston, T., London County Council Tramways, 62, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.
Thorley, F., 130, Oldham Road, Miles Platting, Manchester.
Ulyett, J., 28, Frederica Road, Bournemouth.
Veale Norah, Edwards Hotel, Euston Square, N.W.
Woods, L. T., 115, Minard Road, Catford, S.E.
Wood Agnes, 14, Princess Street, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
Young, M., 4598, Main Street, Coatbridge, Scotland.

Reduced Facsimile of the

£500 "BULLETS" CHEQUE

Paid to Last Week's FIRST PRIZEWINNER.

The original of the above cheque will be on view at the premises of Mr. J. W. Jaques, The Central News Agency, 3, Huntries Row, Scarborough, until May 2nd, and hence until May 6th at those of Mr. G. B. Horsman, Newsagent, etc., Columbus Ravine, Scarborough.

Selection of £5. Prize Winners.

Tait, J., Barrhill, Ayrshire.
Taylor, G. D., 23, Abbey-st., Armagh.
Taylor, G. R., 53, Temple-row, Birmingham.
Taylor, J. W., 19, Rannock-st., Langside, Glasgow.
Taylor, W., 44, Monton-st., Moss Side, Manchester.
Taylor, S., 7, Bismarck-st., Oswaldtwistle.
Teesdale, W. A., 100, King-st., Manchester.
Thomas, H. J., W.G.C., 4, Lake-rd., Keswick.
Thompson, H., 39, Bramford-rd., Wandsworth, S.W.
Thompson J., Ld. Hd. Electrician S.S. Britannic, c.o. Harland and Wolff, Shipbuilders, Belfast.
Thompson, C. M., Long Clawson, Melton Mowbray.
Thompson, S. K., 89, Scalby-rd., Scarborough.
Thomson, R. D., 4, Milgate, Cupar, Fife.
Thomson L., Miss, Greenpark House, Linlithgow.
Thomson, W., Bow Butts, Montrose.
Thorne, Eva, Ringwood-rd., Newtown, Parkston.
Thorpe, C. E., 208, Waleran-bldgs., Old Kent-rd., S.E.
Thorpe, R., Spurlock-row, nr. Twyford, Berks.
Thurkettle, R., Mrs., 68, Park-st., Slough.
Tomlinson, J., Mrs., 55, Langsett-rd., Sheffield.
Toner, W., 12, Arlington-st., Glasgow.
Townend, D., Mrs., 54, Ebers-grove, Nottingham.
Turner, C., 103, Greyhound-rd., Tottenham, N.
Upson, W., 1, Roxobel-gdns., Harrow.
Vickerstaff, W. T., 3, York-st., Leek, Staffs.
Wakeman, W. C., 75, Victoria-st., Ipswich, Suffolk.
Walker, C., 94, Bridge-st., Long Eaton, Derbyshire.
Walker, Lizzie, 190, Berkeley-st., Glasgow.
Walker, H., 21, Woodview-grove, Dewsbury-rd., Leeds.
Ward, G. F., 134, Grange View, Lawkholme-lane, Keighley.
Ward, Ethel, 4, Glebe-ave., Woodford Green, Essex.
Ware, E. T., 23, Albion-rd., Chesterfield.
Watt, W., West Lodge, Culter House, Milltimber, Aberdeen.
Watts, M., Mrs., 2, St. Keyna-rd., Keynsham, nr. Bristol.
Weaver, Mr., Little Heath, Chadwell Heath, Essex.
Weaver, R., "Belmont," Alexandra-rd., Penn, Wolverhampton.
Webb, M. 67 Gladstone-rd. Cheeham.
Webb, R. A., 92, Fernahead-rd., Paddington, W.
Weber, M., 47, Seward-rd., Hanwell.
Webster, A., 81, Upton Park-rd., Forest Gate, E.
Wellings, E., 30, Chestergate, Macclesfield.
Wellman, G., King Cross, Halifax.
Wells, D., Miss, Wonford, Reigate-rd., Reigate, Surrey.
Wells, D. J., Mrs., 14, Roseneath-place, Marchmont Dis, Edinburgh.
Werry, W., Carron-lane, Midhurst, Sussex.
West, C., 36, Torridon-rd., Catford.
Westall, W., 67, Marlborough-rd., Merton, S.W.

"BULLETS" RULES, (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. A careful study of the winning efforts from week to week will also indicate the standard of merit to be attained. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 34, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ——A——. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, May 6th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

7. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been elected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider insufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudication staff in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

Complete List of all cash and other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Racing Notes.

There must be some very clever judges of racing amongst our readers, considering the number of successful placers of the one, two, three in the City and Suburban. How they managed it with such as Candytuft and Braxted filling the places behind Maiden Erlegh passes the comprehension of the ordinary racing scribe. Still, there it is, and good luck to the winners. May they always be so fortunate. Maiden Erlegh won in the style of a real good horse, though apparently there were many excuses to be made for Sun Yat. The 10 lbs. penalty just kept Wrack out of the place for which he was so heavily backed.

This week we have the two classics, the 2,000 and 1,000 Guineas. For the colts' race The Tetrarch will not run and that being so KENNYMORE will find his most dangerous opponent in Corcyra, who has come excellently out of a trial.

The field for the fillies' race will be a large one, but the quality is rather poor. Apparently the best thing in the race is TORCHLIGHT, who should not have much difficulty in winning.

To-day (Wednesday) at Newmarket, despite his failure at Epsom, it will require a real good one to beat THE BOSS in the Heath High-weight Handicap. With Robinson's youngsters in such good form the Wilbraham Plate should be good for his selected, which will probably be ORMOLU. In the Bretby Handicap we must follow JAMESON.

On Thursday, after his fine performance at Epsom, nothing should beat STRATHMASHIE in the Newmarket T.Y.O. Plate. WANONO looks the likely winner of the Long Course Selling Handicap, as does the SEA PINK f. of the Littleport Plate.

On Friday COLOUR SYSTEM can continue his winning career in the May Plate, but there is also a strong tip about for Orbost in the same race. BARIUM will be better suited by the course of the Mildenhall Plate than he was at Epsom, and he is a proved stayer. FLOCON ought to win the Three-Year-Old Handicap and WAVESTAR the Friday Welter.

The best things at Thirsk are BED TIME for the Clifton Handicap on Friday and DONACLONEY for the Falcon Plate on Saturday.

At Hurst Park on Saturday horses that will run well in the Victoria Cup are BRAXTED, Apprentice and Sweetest Melody, and of these the first-named looks best. KNIGHT OF GLIN* in the Durham Handicap should prove the best thing of the week and the LILYDALE f. may win the T.Y.O. Selling.

A LUCKY PUNTER.

We have frequently made reference to the "Playful Double," and we learn that Mr. A. H. Westwood, the well-known turf accountant of Edinburgh, has recently paid out the substantial odds of 1,120 to 1 over Outram and Sunloch. This must surely constitute a record.

NO FEES.

RACING COMPETITION.

£150 FOR PLACING 3 HORSES.

No. 3 CONTEST

Just as we anticipated, our £500 Prize in our First Racing Competition has been won, and won easily. Our £500 Prize for our Second Competition will also be won in all probability. We were willing to pay £1,000 to advertise the Competition and to establish it on a sound basis.

Now we know where we are. If, in our very First Competition, in which two outsiders were placed, quite a number of competitors sent in absolutely correct coupons, it stands to reason that our Prize will be won every time. We face the situation with equanimity; but, of course, it is not a business proposition to pay away £500 every week. The advertisement would be too costly. We are willing, however, to lose £150 per week, and so this week we offer £150, which will be paid to the competitor or competitors correctly placing the first three horses in the Jubilee Handicap, to be run at Kempton Park on Saturday, May 9th. If nobody succeeds in placing the first three, £100 will be awarded to the sender of the most correct coupon.

£100 MUST BE WON.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

Opposite you will find a coupon containing the names of the horses entered for the Jubilee Handicap, to be run at Kempton Park on May 9th. Your task is to put the figure 1 in front of the name of the horse which you think will finish first, the figure 2 against the name of the horse which you think will finish second; the figure 3 against the name of the horse which you think will finish third. To the reader or readers placing correctly the first, second and third horses, we shall award £150. In the event of nobody placing all three correctly we shall award a prize of £100 to the person or persons sending in the most correct coupon.

HOW TO MARK YOUR COUPON.

If you think, for instance, that "*Long Set*" will win you must put the figure 1 opposite that horse's name. If you believe that "*Cigar*" will finish second, you must put the figure 2 opposite his name. If you predict that "*Bonbon Rose*" will finish third, you must put the figure 3 against his name.—N.B.—You must not mark more than three horses on any single coupon, or else such coupon will be disqualified.

In the event of competitors tieing, the prize money won will be equally divided. The Editor's decision is to be final.

SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS YOU LIKE.

CLOSING DATE MAY 8. Entries to be addressed to "John Bull," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope in top left-hand corner, Racing No. 3, and post so as to reach us not later than Fri. May 8.

JOHN BULL ENTRANCE FORM.

HORSES ENTERED FOR THE JUBILEE HANDICAP, TO BE RUN AT KEMPTON PARK, SATURDAY, MAY 9th.

	STEDFAST		BRAXTED
	LONG SET		BLUE STONE
	JUNIOR		QUEEN'S PARADE
	MAIDEN ERLEGH		CYKLON
	CIGAR		GREY BARBARIAN
	FAIRY KING		DIADUMENOS
	GREAT SPORT		CHEERFUL
	THISTLETON		CHINA COCK
	BONBON ROSE		BIRLINGHAM
	MONACE		TALANA HILL
	ROSEWORTHY		NASSAU
	SIR MARTIN		ROYAL WEAVER
	BERRILLDON		AMBASSADOR
	PRUE		THE CURRAGH
	DRINMORE		PICTORIAL
	BACHELOR'S WEDDING		SANDS OF TIME
	RATTLE JACK		HALOS
	YOUNG PEGASUS		FITZRICHARD
	TUXEDO		TINKLEBELL
	WHITE MAGIC		SOLOMON'S MINE

I enter "JOHN BULL" Racing Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

C Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Since we go to press early it is impossible for us to foretell the scratchings which may be made. Consequently, all the horses whose names are given on the Coupon are not likely to run. In fact, 15 to 20 will be the probable number of Starters

"Gale's Special"

The "SPECIAL" that Guarantees Your Success Maintains a Great Reputation.

"Fewer selections and more winners than any of its rivals."—*Vide The Sportsman.*

Proof ! Proof !! Proof !!!

Since the commencement of March this year "Gale's Special" has given no less than SIXTY-ONE WINNERS, including GRETA MOOR (100-8); GOLDEN RULE (7-1); DUKE OF TIPPERARY (10-1); ROYAL DEMAND (10-1); RED COIL (100-6); KENWAVE (6-1); THE BOSS (6-1); HOUNAM (6-1); OCYDROME (7-1); and DUNHOLME (5-1); whilst

Our Latest Triumph

(at the time of writing this advertisement)

is

MAIDEN ERLEGH for the City and Suburban

(The Editor's sole selection).

Next Monday's issue of "GALE'S SPECIAL," published at 2s. 6d. will be sent post free in plain sealed envelope upon receipt of 1s. P.O. or Stamps to all readers of "JOHN BULL" enclosing this paragraph

"Gale's" Late Telegraphed Reports.

Recent Wire Triumphs have included

THE BOSS (6-1) March 24th; GOLDEN RULE (7-1) March 31st; DUNHOLME (5-1) April 4th; OCYDROME (7-1) April 7th; THUNDERSTONE (9-4 D.H.) April 14th; SCREAMER (2-1) April 18th; MAIDEN ERLEGH (100-14) April 22nd.

Post Office proofs produced if necessary.

Sportsmen requiring unequalled and sterling intelligence should subscribe for

Gale's Primus Wire

The Most Successful Service Ever Inaugurated.

The charge for this Special Primus Wire is TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS PER MESSAGE. In no circumstances whatever is more than one selection ever mentioned on this message. It amounts to this, ONE SELECTION ONLY—THE BEST SELECTION THAT MONEY, BRAINS AND INFLUENCE CAN PROCURE.

The next selection on this GALE'S PRIMUS WIRE will be sent from NEWMARKET on FRIDAY, MAY 1st, and

As a Special Offer to JOHN BULL readers we will send this Special Wire upon receipt of £10, instead of the usual charge of £25.

and UNLESS THE SELECTION SENT OUT IS SUCCESSFUL, AND AT REASONABLE ODDS, WE GUARANTEE TO SEND OUR NEXT TATTERSALL'S RING WIRE ENTIRELY FREE OF CHARGE. On the other hand, should the selection win at the odds of not less than 5 to 1 against, subscribers will of course, forward the balance of £15.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

"Gale's Special,"

Ruskin Buildings, Birmingham

Telegraphic Address: "WINNERS, Birmingham."

"THE HOUNSLOW RACING CRITIC."

Edited by H. HIBBERT. (Established 1908.)

The Most Up-to-date Racing Special.

Published at 4 p.m. each Monday. Price 2s. 6d.

STARTED THE SEASON IN BRILLIANT FORM.

Recent winners for big races that have been Nap are—

CHINA COCK (NAP), won 11 to 4 the QUEEN'S PRIZE.
DUNHOLME (NAP), won 5 to 1, the CHADDERDEN PLATE.
WRACK (NAP), won 4 to 1, the NEWBURY CUP.
PITMASTON (NAP), won 3 to 1 the TOWN HANDICAP.
LIGHT BRIGADE (NAP), won 11 to 10, the BRIDGEMAN HANDICAP.
THE BOSS (NAP), won 6 to 1, the BATTHYANY PLATE.

Few selections, but reliable, strictly one horse.

THE FOLLOWING are EXTRACTS from the PRESS.

"The Sportsman," April 11, 1914, says:—

We have received a copy of the "Hounslow Racing Critic," and a very useful addition to the ranks of racing specials it makes.

The tips are few—not more than two a day, and these single horses—so that there is no confusing of chances. Judging by last week's results, purchasers are on a good thing. It is published every Monday, the price being 2s. 6d.

"The Mirror of Life" and "Racing Words," April 11, says:—

HE KNOWS HIS BUSINESS.

Few turf advisers have worked harder than Mr. H. Hibbert, of Florinda Villa, Hounslow, who travels all the meetings, and does his utmost for his clients. His successes in the past have been many, while such as The Boss and Wrack prove that he is once again well on the mark.

I have one of the best things I have ever known for the CHESTER CUP, on Wednesday, and fear nothing.

Remember this is my lucky race. I stood in—

1904	BARGOOY won.	1909	SANTA STRATO won.
1905	CARD lost.	1910	ELIZABETTA won.
1906	FEATHER BED won.	1911	PILLO lost.
1907	QUERIDO won.	1912	CLAREMEUX second.
1908	GLADIS won.	1913	LORIMER second.

6 winners, 2 seconds, during the last 10 years.

No comment is required, the above speaks for itself.

Next week's issue Monday, May 4th, 1914, will contain My Great Double for the CHESTER CUP and GREAT JUBILEE STAKES and also Special One Horse Nap Selections for THE PRINCE OF WALES' HANDICAP, THE GREAT CHESHIRE HANDICAP, THE STEWARDS' HANDICAP and THE RIVER HANDICAP

Only two selections per day are given, the best is Napped.

Private free letters are sent for the week end if any change in selections.

POST AT ONCE 1/6; A RECORD NEXT WEEK, CERTAIN.

The result of my Occasional One Horse Wires, worked on my new method for 14 years with £20 Bank shows a clear profit of £4,331 8s. 4d.

Full particulars of wires, etc., sent to all who mention this paper.

Address, FLORINDA LODGE, HOUNSLOW.

Study Security and send your Business to

CHARLES VILLIERS CHAPMAN,

Turf Commissioner, Member of the Leading London Sporting Clubs
Write at once for my Illustrated Book of Rules, and Learn something of the firm with whom it will pay you to transact your Business.

24-26, MADDOX ST., LONDON, W.

Tel., Repayable, Reg., London. 'Phone, 890 Mayfair (10 lines).

A £1,000 S.P. JOB: RACE AT ITS MERCY.

Will win like our LAST FOUR [illegible], viz:—PITMASTON, BEDGROVE, GALLEOT 10-1, CURRAGH 6-1. Our next BIG £1,000 COUP runs for the VICTORIA CUP NEXT SATURDAY. Defeat scorned. Post quick £1 for this WIRE. If it does not WIN at a BIG PRI[illegible] at the 9s. "RACING STUD SPECIAL" till JUNE FREE which gives O[illegible] TIPS each week. Gave OUTRAM 25-1 won, TRIANON 100-8 2nd, [illegible]-1 won, CHINA COCK (Queen's Prize) 11-4 won, and [illegible]INECY 100-8 for the Gt. MET. We alone stood it, [illegible] to "JOHN BULL," which says: "Run on straig[illegible] MONDAY'S "BIG" ISSUE of THE "RACING S[illegible] TURNHAM GREEN, LONDON, which will give the [illegible] for CHESTER CUP and GREAT JUBILEE, BOT[illegible]

MAR[illegible] BULL

EVERY FRIDA[illegible] ONE PENNY.

JOHN BULL PE[illegible] COUPON 1d.

By sending this Coupo[illegible] 1d. stamp for postage, the holder is entitled to rec[illegible] Bull Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen. Additional Coupons up to 12 from "John Bull" or "Mary Bull," any dates, may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 1d. off the price. You may send 13 Coupons, and P.O. for 1/6 only and loose 1d. stamp for postage. Address Pen Dept., "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C. May 2nd, 1914.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

NO LIMIT

"DUGGIE NEVER OWES."—*Sporting Times*," 18/4/14.

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